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[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, FIVEPENCE.]

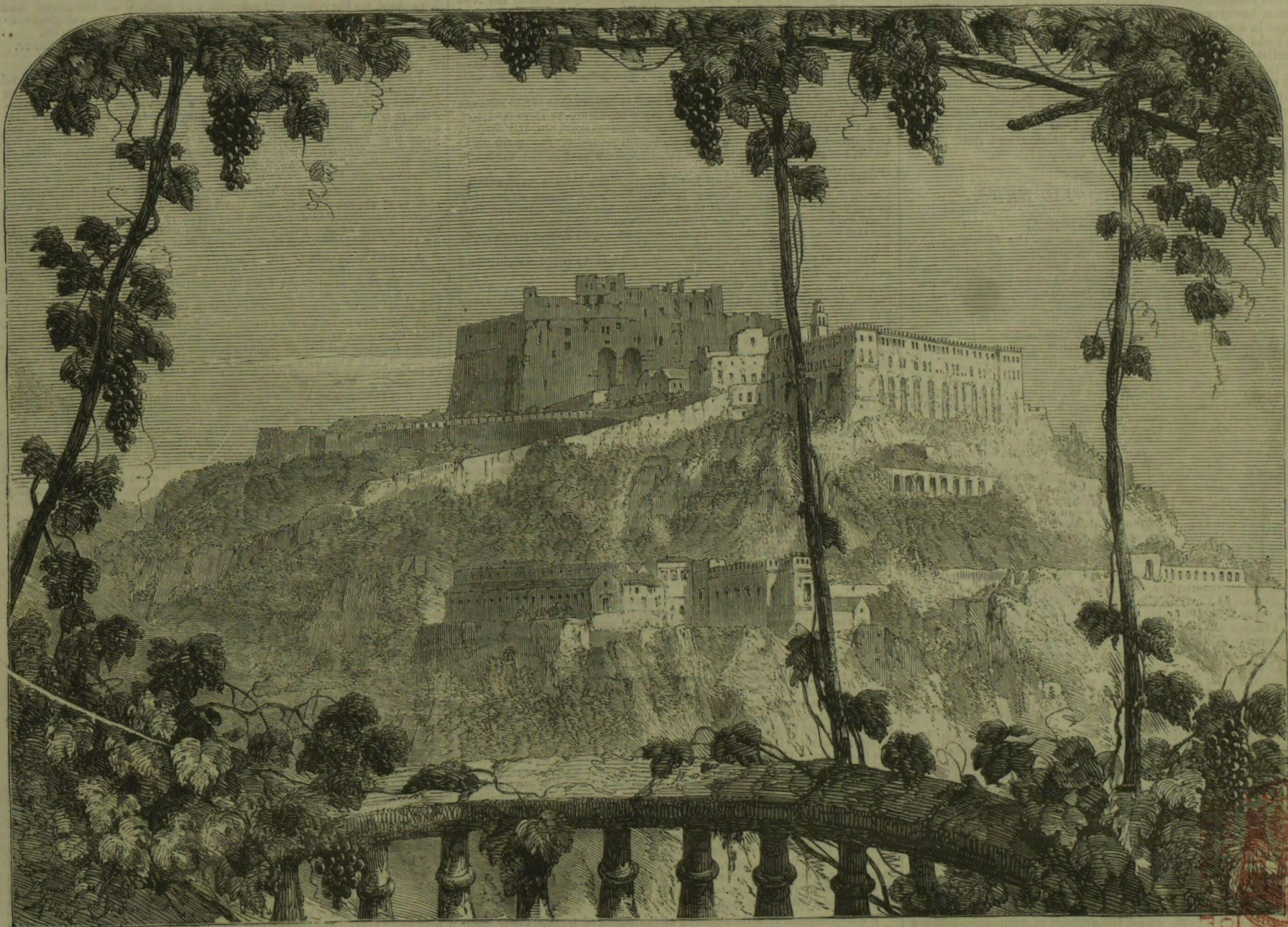
THE PARLIAMENT OUT OF DOORS.

THE constituencies both of Boroughs and of Counties have excluded from the New Parliament so many men possessed of energy and eloquence, that the country is threatened with a Parliament out of doors. So let it be! We know of no reason why such a result should be deprecated. Even if the members of the extraneous Parliament should be gifted with powers of debate more brilliant, and with powers of ratiocination more trenchant and effectual, than the legitimate Parliament of the nation, the cause of good government will not suffer. When parties are too evenly balanced, or when the distinctive marks which separate party from party are effaced or blurred, there is a tendency in Parliaments to become idle and to stagnate. When this is the case there is nothing better than a good breeze out of doors to keep the waters wholesome. Of late years this tendency has become stronger every Session—so strong, in fact, that for all useful purposes, except the voting of supplies, Parliament was gradually abdicating its right of action, and degenerating into a mere debating club. Another and more impetuous Parliament out of doors will cure it of this evil, should it have no means of cure within itself. After a lull of eleven years a good rattling storm of domestic politics will help to clear the atmosphere. Standing still in these times is virtually as bad as retrogression. The recent elections, if they have declared anything to parties and to Governments, have declared that it is time to move on. The movement, we think, will be all the brisker because certain men who love to hear themselves

talk, and who are accustomed to lead or to lecture their countrymen, are deprived of the opportunity in the council-chamber of St. Stephen's.

The question of the Corn-laws unsettled the mutual relationship of Tories, Whigs, and Radicals; Conservatives and Liberals; and marshalled them into the opposing phalanxes of Protectionists and Free-traders. But, when that question was disposed of, no other of equal urgency or interest arose to fill its place and redistribute the Parliamentary combatants under their ancient banners. The question of Reform, though sometimes on the lips of orators, had no very deep seat in their affections; and just as it might have become a powerful cry, the useless French Revolution of February, 1848, occurred to distract attention from domestic to foreign politics, and to prove by its results that there might be a great deal of Reform without even the shadow of Liberty. The events which rapidly succeeded each other in France and in other Continental countries somewhat disgusted the sober British people with their fine-spun theories of Reform and Progress which had only to be drawn out to the proper tenuity to snap asunder, and leave a clear arena to the first Despot—booted, spurred, and sabred—who had audacity enough to vault into the vacant place and take possession. These revolutions and counter-revolutions, these short-lived and tyrannical Republics, followed by longer-lived and more tyrannical Autocracies, led as an infallible consequence to that general disturbance of the political relations of the European States towards each other, which, in its

turn, produced the attack of Russia on the independence and the very existence of Turkey, and that great War to resist the evil-doer which so sorely tried the temper of the British people. But, having passed successfully, if not gloriously, through that ordeal, and having escaped, by the administrative sagacity and patriotic boldness of Lord Palmerston, from the national humiliation which for many a dark day in the Crimea seemed but too imminent, and being freed in consequence from any apprehension of a renewed European war, the people of the British Islands once more turned their attention to domestic affairs. The opportunity of passing a verdict was no sooner afforded them, than they deprived of their seats in Parliament the most able and pertinacious of the men who had systematically striven to weaken the hands of the Government in its foreign wars. Mr. Gladstone himself, the arch-arguer whose eloquence "darkens counsel" in the most triumphant manner known in modern times, would have shared the fate of Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, and Mr. Milner Gibson, if he had asked the suffrages of any constituency but that of the University of Oxford or of a rotten borough; and Sir J. Graham, had he gone out of Carlisle, might have begged for a seat in vain from any popular constituency. With few exceptions, whenever a member of the last Parliament with a crotchet about the possibility of universal peace, or about the wickedness of all war, has ventured to solicit re-election, he has been defeated. Wherever an impracticable member, always carping at others, never of himself suggesting anything feasible, and making it a rule to deny the propriety and the feasibility of everything proposed by wiser



THE CASTLE OF ST. ELMO, NAPLES — (SEE NEXT PAGE.)



men, has ventured to face the electors he has been consigned to private life, as the punishment of his conceit and want of common sense. The people have declared for common sense as well as for common honesty; and the result is a Parliament stronger in its Liberal element than any Parliament since the times of the first Earl Grey; and the relegation to comparative obscurity of more than a hundred gentlemen who were not acute enough to understand their countrymen, or generous enough to sympathise with them.

Of these hundred, perhaps some twenty or thirty of the ablest, the most eloquent, and the most energetic and honest, with Mr. Cobden at their head, will form the "Parliament out of doors." It is possible that Mr. Cobden, who, notwithstanding his errors of judgment, was an ornament to the Legislature, will be enabled ere long to procure a seat; but, even in his default, the external Parliament will not be powerless for lack of leaders.

The vice of the late House of Commons was want of zeal in the public cause, and that vice was to a large extent attributable to a want of wholesome agitation for some great and well-defined object of domestic policy. The object has been found. The policy has been declared; and if the able men who have been rejected from Parliament are desirous to set foot once more within the well-beloved precincts—admission to which gives dignity as well as power—they will best accomplish their end by constitutional and energetic agitation in favour of another instalment of Reform. Some of them have already declared that, if the people could freely elect their representatives, they would be members of the new, as they were of the old, Parliament. Let them try what Reform will do for them, and they may live to confer a real service on their country.

THE CASTLE OF ST. ELMO, NAPLES.

WE engrave another of our artistic Correspondent's Views in Naples, which, in the political horizon, may be considered at this moment to possess interest equal to that of any European capital. The Castle of St. Elmo, or St. Erasmo, stands on the most lofty point in the neighbourhood of the capital, and commands it completely with its guns. Some uncertainty attaches to the date of its construction, but probably it was built about the middle of the fourteenth century. The mountain on which it stands has been at various times called Monte Palerno, Santo Erasmo, and Santo Martino; but St. Erasmo has given its name to the castle. The Viceroy of Charles V. much enlarged it, and perhaps all that we now see belongs to the sixteenth century. In 1587 it suffered much from lightning, which falling upon it ignited the powder-magazine, and a great portion of the fortress, together with 150 persons, was destroyed. Though it commands the city, it would be of little use were an enemy behind it, as it is itself commanded by the heights of Camaldoli. With a full knowledge of this, therefore, the country about it has been fortified in order to guard against so fatal a contingency. At present Castel St. Elmo is well provided with munitions of war, and is in the hands of the Swiss, who are thus masters of the city; and very recently its strength has been much increased by one of those caprices which sometimes take possession of Sovereigns who are assured of the love of their subjects.

On the 15th May, 1848, the red flag was displayed from its heights, and the cannon sent forth its destructive volleys into the devoted city which lay beneath. In certain eventualities it is prepared to enact another 15th May. St. Elmo is used at times as a place of confinement for State prisoners, and of some of its prisons none speak without a shudder. Those who have been confined in this castle, but not in the worst prisons, speak of their good fortune in having escaped from No. 54. It is described as being dark, of a great depth, and the various popular traditions have it that after a time the hair falls off, the whole person becomes enfeebled, and that no one ever comes out alive. Such stories, however exaggerated, imply the existence of places of confinement in direct opposition to ordinary civilisation. And yet, who that looks upon that picturesque mediæval edifice, and marks with an artistic eye in what bold relief it stands out against the blue canvas of the sky, would ever dream of the sufferings which are experienced within its walls? Still more, who that, standing upon the heights of the castle, looks down on the smiling godlike scene which lies below, around, far as the eye can reach, would ever dream that what God has blessed man has cursed; and, as if in impious opposition to the Divine will, labours ever to prevent and destroy the blessings which are there so abundantly diffused?

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

AUSTRIA AND SARDINIA.

A despatch from Turin, of April 2, announces the formation of a camp of 20,000 men at Alessandria. The *Gazette Militaire*, the organ of General La Marmora, in mentioning the fact, remarks that this measure ought to give no provocation, as it is required every year for the purpose of military evolutions. The *Ost-Deutsche Post*, as will be seen from the following passage, is rather sceptical as to the strictly pacific character of the military demonstration:—

It is our duty (says the Austrian organ) to take cognisance of this new feature of Piedmontese politics. At the moment in which Austria complained of certain appearances of hostility, it was thought opportune at Turin to enter upon a discussion relative to the fortifications of Alessandria, protesting that no demonstration was intended. When Count Paar declared to the Piedmontese Ministry that the Marquis de Cantono was free to remain at his post, the latter was recalled. But there was no desire for a rupture—it was a pure question of dignity. And now, at a moment when the diplomatic relations are broken, Piedmont establishes a camp of 20,000 men, and says to us—"This is not a demonstration, but simply a military exercise which takes place every year." We do not know sufficient of the usages of the Piedmontese army to say whether such a concentration has been held every year, and if it has taken place at precisely this period of the year, and in these proportions; this we know, however, that a moderate and prudent Government, whose tendencies were opposed to any provocation, and which was averse to causing alarm, would have preferred, in a situation so delicate, to have postponed for some months the "annual evolutions," in order that their simultaneity with a recent diplomatic conflict might not give them a significance which most assuredly cannot favour a solution of the difference.

The two principal grievances alleged by the Austrian against the Sardinian Government are, it appears, the provocations offered by the political refugees in Piedmont, and the fortifying of Alessandria; and until these cease it is pretended there will be no reconciliation. The Austrian Consuls in Piedmont have, however, received orders from Vienna to remain at their posts and to continue as hitherto in the performance of their duties. The circular in which these instructions are contained is couched in reassuring terms.

CONDITION OF ITALY.

The most recent accounts from Naples show that the elements of discord are increasing on all sides.

Lord Derby's speech in the House of Lords, on the 17th March, has been translated into French; 20,000 copies of it have been printed, and the police and other Government agents are active in distributing it. The moral effect of the speech is likely to be bad, as it will, in all probability, confirm the Government in its determination to pursue its present system, and at the same time exasperate the Liberal party.

A circular is now going the round of the Royal Judges in the provinces, warning them against an emissary of Lord Palmerston, who is supposed to be travelling through the country taking notes, and God knows what else. The signs are intimated by which he may be known, and special orders are given not to hurt him, but to watch all with whom he comes in contact. Circulars of an equally ridiculous and annoying description are issued every day, and the Royal Judges complain much of the trouble they impose.

Sicilian news is very rare, as all the avenues of communication are closely guarded. The following placard emanates from Palermo. The spirit which breathes through it is of the most violent character; it belongs, however, to the history of the period:—

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF NAPLES.—LONG LIVE ITALIAN UNITY!

Brothers.—Our tyrant, with a ferocity without comparison, ever oppresses us more heavily. He declares a war of extermination against us: he slays us, our wives, our children, our friends, in the midst of tortures. No longer is it a lust of power which moves him, but a thirst for blood, offspring of a vile vindictiveness. Neapolitans, for extreme evils we must adopt extreme remedies. Of what use is moderation? Ferdinand is crime personified: all that belongs to him is corrupt; the tree must fall with its branches. Every law grants us the right of legitimate defence; repel, then, the sword with the sword, the dagger with the dagger; life for life;—thus only can we be safe. Brothers, begin; we will follow you; let us continue the work initiated by the magnanimous but too unfortunate Milano and Bentivegna. God will assist us; or if we fall, we shall not die unavenged. Noble Neapolitans, if our oppressor makes a show of changing his system, do not believe him: he is a perjured traitor; our misfortunes will know no end during his life. Pardon his young wolves—yes; but him and the perfidious Austrian, never. Not thoughts of blood, brothers, but desperation, inspire those sentiments. Let the infamy of them fall upon the monster who drives a people to such excesses. Up then; let us give a hand to the work, and thus let us teach Kings to remember that they are men; and to the people, to finish for ever with their tyrants. Long live Italian unity!

THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY OF PALERMO.

ULTRAMONTANISM AND THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT.

The *Moniteur* of Tuesday last contains an Imperial decree, to the effect that the Bishop of Moulins, in the conditions he imposed upon the clergy of his diocese, and in forbidding them, under pain of excommunication, to appeal to the civil power, has acted illegally; and those acts are therefore declared null and void. This decision of the Council of State gives a rebuke to the Ultramontane prelate, and, at the same time, vindicates the liberties and rights of the Gallican Church. It is the severest lesson received by the Ultramontane party for many years past, and will cause as much gratification to the great majority of the French people as vexation to the intolerant members of the above party. Doubtless, however, the favours of Rome will compensate the censured prelate for his unpopularity at home.

PRUSSIA AND SWITZERLAND.

The Neufchâtel Conference did not sit on Tuesday last, as had been expected. Notice was sent out on Sunday to the Plenipotentiaries for a meeting on that day, but a counter-order was subsequently given, doubtless because the expected instructions were not received from Berne or Berlin, or, perhaps, from both places. The difficulty, it appears, turns on the question of money—the amount, not the principle of indemnity, which is said to be admitted.

Both parties are said to have made concessions, and the King of Prussia is understood to have consented to give way largely on the point most objectionable to Switzerland. Instead of an indemnity of 2,000,000*fr.*, the report is that 600,000*fr.* will be accepted.

CHINA.—AN IMPERIAL DESPATCH.

The following letter, purporting to be a despatch addressed to the Viceroy of Canton by the Chief of the Council of the Emperor of China, has appeared in several papers:—

Yeh, I have serious news to impart to you! We have read with attention the account you have given us of the attack by the English barbarians. The Nuy-Ko were unanimous in their indignation at it, and we determined that the Emperor should be informed of it, notwithstanding the pain it occasions his magnanimous heart, and these are the commands of his mighty will: Yeh, you are to carry on a war of extermination against the foreign barbarians who have attacked you. They must receive from you an exemplary chastisement. Yet, after the vengeance shall have been deemed sufficient by you, and if they manifest sincere repentance for what they have done, the Emperor, our magnanimous Sovereign, who is inundated with floods of light, consents that hostilities shall cease, and that commercial affairs shall be resumed with these foreigners as they existed previous to their fault.

Yeh, you will take heed, and you will communicate the preceding to the Mandarin placed under your orders.

Pekin, the 10th day of the 2nd Moon.

TSAO-TECH-YONG, Head of the Imperial Nuy-Ko.

This document bears on its face the mark of a fictitious origin, and will probably be found, on inquiry, to have issued from the same mint with the interrogation and confession of Alum, lately published.

AMERICA.

The Royal mail-steamer *America*, which left New York on the 24th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Monday last. Among the passengers was Mr. A. H. Evans, who is said to be the bearer of despatches to the Court of St. James's which include an amended draught of the Dallas-Clarendon Treaty. The Washington correspondent of the *New York Herald*, writing on the 22nd, says:—

The Clarendon-Dallas Treaty, as amended by the Senate, has been amended over again by a Cabinet Council, and will be sent out to England by a special agent, Mr. A. H. Evans, by the steamer on Wednesday next. The amendments made by the President and Cabinet will make it more palatable to the English Government, and will, probably, ensure its confirmation.

The *Herald* says that it has every reason to believe that Mr. Buchanan feels the deepest interest in the acceptance of the treaty thus modified, and that this fact will be privately communicated to the British Government, together with all needful assurances of the good faith which has actuated the American Senate and Cabinet in the modifications proposed.

The *Herald*, commenting on Lord Palmerston's defence on the China question, maintains that every British Ministry would necessarily have pursued the same course in reference to the China question that Lord Palmerston has. The arguments of the leading speakers against the Government were the merest moonshine. Lord Palmerston's reply was perfectly conclusive and unanswerable.

The chief political news by this arrival relates to office-seeking and governmental appointments. The affairs of Kansas had occupied the serious attention of the Cabinet. A despatch of the 23rd, from Washington, in the *New York Courier and Enquirer*, says:—"Governor Geary was consulted. The Governor's resignation has not yet been accepted, but will be, and the appointment of a Southern man in his place is probable. Geary had an interview with Pierce, and qualified some of his charges." Further disturbances were anticipated in Kansas. The slavery question is once more becoming the only topic on which earnest politicians think and speak. Mr. Buchanan's inaugural address is scoffed at by all parties.

The *New York Daily Times* says:—

The President is now directly and personally responsible for the course of events in that territory. It is impossible not to perceive that the elements of civil commotion are again in agitation; that the violent, lawless, Pro-Slavery fanaticism—to which all the past sufferings of Kansas are due—is renewing its effort at ascendancy; that it is now in possession, by fraud and force, of the actual government; and that Governor Geary, the representative of the federal authority there, has been compelled to fly before it. This crisis—so momentous and so menacing—President Buchanan must meet. If his words are correctly reported he is not insensible to its importance. The leading organs of the Administration in the Northern States are even more solicitous on this subject than the Republicans. The Albany *Atlas* and *Argus*, for example, in speaking of it, says:—"We speak not merely as citizens, but also as politicians, not for ourselves alone, but for the political party whose views we aim to represent. To falter in this 'duty' would again rekindle violence in Kansas, fill the whole country with excitement, blast the new Administration at its outset, annihilate the Democratic party in every Northern State, and at the next national election in the Union, and not improbably end in a dissolution of this confederacy."

It is stated that positive information has been received in Washington, to the effect that Brigham Young and his crew have burned the United States archives, court records, and 900 volumes of law books in Utah territory, and that they have demanded the appointment of one of two schedules of federal officers, both headed by Brigham Young for governor, with the avowed purpose of driving any other out of the territory by force of arms. The United States' officers in the territory found it impossible to enforce the laws, and even their lives are in danger. Brigham Young rules as an autocrat, and no man's life is safe who may fall under his displeasure. The non-Mormon portion of the inhabitants are not protected. "Murder," writes the Hon. W. W. Drummond, United States' Supreme Judge in the territory, "is a common thing here, and Mormons cannot be punished, with a Mormon jury, witnesses, and officers, and a governor to pardon. A man, not a member of the church, is murdered, or robbed and imprisoned, solely for questioning the authority of the church. Persons are now in the Penitentiary, convicted before the Probate Judge, who are wholly innocent of any crime." And he asks, "Is there any other country where such things are or would be endured?"

The *New York Herald* says:—

We are informed that the rejection of the parcel of treaties lately negotiated at Mexico, under the auspices of President Pierce, by our Minister, Mr. Forsyth, had been followed up by our present Cabinet with the draught of a new treaty upon the simple basis of money for land. Another feature of the treaty is the proposed establishment of a line of postal

steamers between New Orleans and Vera Cruz, to run under the American flag. Spain threatens a hostile naval descent on Vera Cruz. This line of steamers between that city and New Orleans will not only furnish the Mexicans the necessary men and munitions for a successful defence, but will afford to our Cuban Filibusters the facilities, should the occasion serve, for a hostile naval descent from the Mexican coast upon the island of Cuba, under cover of the Mexican flag, and under all the securities of a regular war.

Commander Swartwout, of the United States' steamer *Massachusetts*, has made an interesting report of the engagement fought on the 21st of March last between the crew of that vessel and a band of North Russian Indians, near Port Gamble, Washington territory. The United States' force had one man killed and one wounded, and the Indians lost 27 killed and 21 wounded—among the latter one of their chiefs. The Indians sued for peace, and promised to go to Victoria, and never visit Puget Sound again.

AUSTRALIA.

The European and Australian Company's steamer *Jura* arrived at Southampton on Thursday with the *Simla*'s Australian mails. She left Alexandria March 23, and Malta April 1. The *Jura* brings 29 passengers, 21 packages of specie, value £84,717; one package of gold coin, value £1100; 50 parcels and 630 bales of cotton, wool, &c. On the 31st of March, in lat. 35.35, lon. 16, the *Jura* spoke the barque *Circassian*; and on the 7th of April, in lat. 44.25, lon. 8.42, the steamer *Albania*.

COUNTRY NEWS.

MR. BRIGHT'S FAREWELL ADDRESS.

From the following address to the electors of Manchester it will be seen that Mr. Bright contemplates withdrawing from political life for a time. Mr. Cobden has also stated, in a letter to a friend in Liverpool, that he does not intend to take any part in politics at present:—

To the Electors of the City of Manchester.
Gentlemen,—I have received a telegraphic despatch informing me of the result of the election contest in which you have just been engaged. That result has not greatly surprised me; and, so far as I am personally concerned—inasmuch as it liberates me from public life in a manner which involves on my part no shrinking from any duty—I cannot seriously regret it. I lament it on public grounds, because it tells the world that many amongst you have abandoned the opinions you professed to hold in the year 1847, and even so recently as in the year 1852. I believe that slander itself has not dared to charge me with having forsaken any of the principles on the honest support of which I offered myself twice, and was twice accepted, as your representative. The charge against me has rather been that I have too warmly and too faithfully defended the political views which found so much favour with you at the two previous elections.

If the change in your opinion of me has arisen from my course on the question of the war with Russia, I can only say, that, on a calm review of all the circumstances of the case—and during the past twelve months I have had ample time for such a review—I would not unsay or retract any one of the speeches I have spoken, or erase from the records of Parliament any one of the votes I have given, upon it, if I could thereby reverse the decision to which you have come, or secure any other distinction which it is in the power of my countrymen to confer. I am free, and will remain free, from any share in the needless and guilty bloodshed of that melancholy chapter in the annals of my country. I cannot, however, forget that the leaders of the Opposition in the recent contest have not been influenced by my conduct on this question. They were less successful, but not less bitter, in their hostility in 1852, and even in 1847, when my only public merit or demerit consisted in my labours in the cause of Free-trade. On each occasion calling themselves Liberals, and calling their candidates Liberals also, they have coalesced with the Conservatives, whilst now, doubtless, they have assailed Mr. Gibson and myself on the ground of a pretended coalition with the Conservatives in the House of Commons!

I have esteemed it a high honour to be one of your representatives, and have given more of mental and physical labour to your service than was just to myself; I feel it scarcely less an honour to suffer in the cause of peace, and on behalf of what I believe to be the true interests of my country—though I could have wished that the blow had come from other hands, at a time when I could have been present to meet face to face those who dealt it.

In taking my leave of you, and of public life, let me assure you that I can never forget the many—the innumerable—kindnesses I have received from my friends amongst you. No one will rejoice more than I shall in all that brings you prosperity and honour; and I am not without a hope that, when a calmer hour shall come, you will say of Mr. Gibson and of me, that, as colleagues in your representation for ten years, we have not sacrificed our principles to gain popularity, or bartered our independence for the emoluments of office, or the favours of the great. I feel that we have stood for the rights, and interests, and freedom of the people, and that we have not tarnished the honour or lessened the renown of your eminent city.—I am now, as I have hitherto been, very faithfully yours,
Florence, March 31, 1857. JOHN BRIGHT.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE COCKBURN.—The Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and Mr. B. M. Wilcox have accepted the invitation of the Southampton Chamber of Commerce to a public banquet, in acknowledgment of the many valuable services rendered by those gentlemen to the commercial interests of that town during the ten years they represented Southampton in the House of Commons. An invitation has also been given to Mr. Wegelin, the present colleague of Mr. Wilcox, who succeeded Sir Alexander Cockburn on his deserved elevation to the Bench. The day for the banquet is not yet fixed.

NEW CHURCH ON RICHMOND-HILL.—The foundation-stone of this new church—Mr. Gilbert Scott, R.A., architect—will be laid on Easter Tuesday, by C. J. Selwyn, Esq., Q.C. There will be Divine service and a sermon at the parish church at half-past two o'clock, after which the people will proceed up Mount Ararat-lane to the site of the church.

ANOTHER STRIKE IN PRESTON.—The workpeople in the employ of Mr. Hollins, cotton-spinner, Royal Sovereign Mill, Church-street, Preston, have struck work in consequence of their refusal to submit to a reduction of ten per cent on the wages they have been receiving, and about 200 of the hands are now out of employment.

A MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.—A man named Astin was a short time since charged before the magistrates of Burnley with having, on the night of the 18th of February, 1857, broken into a cotton-mill at Padiham, and with having cut and wantonly destroyed a great quantity of cotton warps and worsted heads and machinery, thereby inflicting damage to the amount of nearly £300. The evidence against the prisoner was very strong, and, after a patient examination, he was committed for trial. Last week Astin appeared in the dock of the Crown Court at Liverpool, before Baron Martin. The prisoner was a shareholder, and had been in the employment of the association (known as the Padiham Cotton League Company) and discharged. Baron Martin interposed, and stated that the prisoner "was clearly a partner in law, and to that extent an owner of the property, and, as such, not indictable" under the only Act applicable to his offence. In this instance, as in many others, a legal defect has frustrated an important criminal inquiry, and very probably defeated the ends of justice.

THE KIDDERMINSTER RIOTS.—On Monday last the Kidderminster rioters were again brought up for examination before the magistrates. The first case called was that of John Hayes and John Cook, remanded from Friday, on a charge of assaulting the police after the Riot Act had been read on the 28th ult. They both withdrew their plea of guilty, and pleaded guilty to the charge. After an admonition from the Bench they were sentenced to pay a fine of 30*s.* and costs, or, in default, one month's imprisonment. The money was paid. There were three fresh charges of riot preferred—viz., against Mr. George Griffith, corn-dealer, and a member of the Kidderminster Town Council; Mr. Edwin Keywell, butcher; and George Gough. These persons were remanded till Saturday (to-day), as there had not been sufficient time to procure witnesses for the accused. A large number of warrants have been issued, and it was expected that a number of persons would be apprehended.

"ONE HAND ON BOARD."—Information has been received in the north-east ports that the schooner *Happy Return*, which left Sunderland with coals on the 28th ult., has been towed into Dundee by the Hull steamer *Queen*, with only one hand (a lad, named William Charlton) on board. It seems that, after leaving Sunderland, the schooner had encountered a heavy gale, and lost her main-boom; had her sails split, and her bulwarks carried away. Her crew got on board a foreign vessel near the South Bell Light; but, for some reason or other not explained, they left the lad on board. After the crew left the lad in the leaky and disabled barque, in a rough and stormy sea, it appears he had pumped her and kept her before the wind until, exhausted with his efforts to keep the crazy craft afloat, he went below to bed, after securing the wheel, and slept soundly for several hours. He was awoke by the steamer coming alongside. When the schooner was got into Dundee it was ascertained that she was making 3½ inches of water an hour.

SHOCKING MURDER AT LIVERPOOL.—On Tuesday last a butcher, named Gibbons, residing in Bolton-street, Liverpool, who has been for some time in a desponding state of mind owing to failure in business, put his arm round his wife's neck, saying, "Come, Mary, let me give you a kiss!" and immediately cut her throat with a razor. An alarm was given, and in an upper room two of his children, aged four years and eighteen months respectively, were found with their throats cut also. The elder of the children was quite dead. The mother and the younger one were taken to the hospital, but are not expected to recover.

WHITTINGTON CLUB.—We understand that the ninth anniversary of this excellent institution will take place this year at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on Easter Tuesday, and that there will be a large number of persons present. The president of the institution Mr. Sheriff Mechi, who, with Mrs. Mechi and a party of friends, are expected to attend. It is gratifying to hear that the exertions of the committee to secure the reopening of the institution—which, it will be recollected, was some time since destroyed by fire—will be shortly crowned with success, and that a society so calculated to confer substantial benefits upon the community will be speedily again in operation.



A MID-DAY HALT ON THE RIO TROMBUTAS, BRAZIL.

There are men of Anglo-Saxon race inhabiting the mountains and wildernesses of America who subsist by hunting, and imitate the lives of the Red Indians, whose tribes have been nearly extirpated. Of these the two most celebrated are John Cheney and Adam Vandever, whose adventures are pleasantly described by Mr. Charles Lanman, in

his work on the "Wilds of the United States," from which we shall make some extracts. John Cheney was born in New Hampshire, but spent his boyhood on the shores of Lake Champlain, and has resided during thirteen years in the forests of Adirondac. The district bearing that name is situated on the extreme head-waters of the Hudson,

in the counties of Essex and Hamilton, and about forty miles west of Lake Champlain. The mountains vary from five hundred to five thousand feet in height, and, with few exceptions, are covered with dense forests. Here resides John Cheney, his wife, and one child. A cow supplies them with milk, and a couple of hunting-dogs are the



SHOOTING BUFFALOES WITH COLT'S REVOLVING PISTOL.



WATER-HUNTING FOR DEER: A NIGHT SCENE ON THE RIVER SUSQUEHANA, PENNSYLVANIA

companions of the sportsman. He was forty-seven years of age when Mr. Lanman saw him, and he gave the following account of himself:—

You ask me if I ever hunt on Sundays: No, Sir, I do not. I have always been able to kill enough on week days to give me a comfortable living. Since I came to live among the Adirondacks I have killed six hundred deer, four hundred sable, nineteen moose, twenty-eight bears, six wolves, seven wild cats, thirty otters, one panther, and one beaver.

The beaver was the last ever taken in the State of New York, and it took Cheney three years to capture this wary animal; but he caught him at last by fixing a trap under the water, in which the beaver was drowned. In one of our Illustrations the hunters are seen killing deer by torchlight, at which treacherous mode of warfare Cheney is indignant:—

They have several ways of killing them in this quarter, and some of their ways are so infernal mean, I'm surprised there should be any deer left in the country. In the first place, there's the still-hunting fashion, where you lie in ambush near a salt-lick, and shoot the poor creatures when they're not thinking of you. And there's the beastly manner of blinding them with a torchlight, when they come into the lakes to cool themselves, and get away from the flies, during the warm nights of summer. Now, I say, that no decent man will take this advantage of wild game, unless he is in a starving condition. The only manly way to kill deer is by "driving" them, as I do, with a couple of hounds.

This experienced hunter describes the cry of the deer when in the agonies of death as the most awful sound he ever heard, and he mentions as a curious fact "that when a deer is at all frightened he cannot stand upon smooth ice; while, at the same time, when not afraid of being caught, he will not only walk, but actually trot, across a lake as smooth as glass."

We will now introduce to our readers Adam Vandever, the hunter of Tallulah, celebrated for its falls—Tallulah in the Cherokee language signifying "the terrible." The river rises among the Alleghany Mountains, and is a tributary of the Savannah. At the mouth of the Tallulah chasm resides Vandever, in a log cabin, in the centre of a beautiful valley hemmed in on all sides by wild and abrupt mountains. He is a native of South Carolina, spent his early manhood in the wilds of Kentucky, and has passed the last thirty years of his life in the wilderness of Georgia. When Mr. Lanman met him he was sixty years of age, living with his third wife, and claims to be the father of thirty children. His ideas of honourable sporting are very different from those of John Cheney, as he pursues but two methods—"fire-lighting" and "still-hunting." Mr. Lanman gives the following account of him:—

His favourite game is the deer, but he is not particular, and secures the fur of every four-legged creature which may happen to cross his path. The largest number of skins that he ever brought home at one time was six hundred, among which were those of the bear, the black and grey wolf, the panther, the wild cat, the fox, the coon, and some dozen other varieties. He computes the entire number of deer that he has killed in his lifetime at four thousand.

The hairbreadth escapes of this extraordinary man from a painful death partake of the marvellous. We select a couple which may astonish our readers, and perhaps excite their incredulity:—

He was encamped upon one of the loftiest mountains in Union County. It was near the twilight hour, and he heard the howl of a wolf. With a view of ascertaining the direction whence it came he climbed upon an immense boulder rock (weighing, perhaps, fifty tons) which stood on the brow of a steep hillside. While standing upon this boulder he suddenly felt a swinging sensation, and to his astonishment he found that it was about to make a fearful plunge into the ravine half a mile below him. As fortune would have it, the limb of an oak-tree drooped over the rock, and as the rock started from its foundation he seized the limb and thereby saved his life.

The boulder rushed down the mountain, and the hunter alighted on the spot it had vacated. This was the only occasion on which Vandever experienced the sensation of fear. Here is another incident of a similar perilous character:—

On another occasion he fired at a large buck near the brow of a precipice some thirty feet high which hangs over one of the pools in Tallulah river. On seeing the buck drop he took it for granted that he was about to die, when he approached the animal for the purpose of cutting its throat. To his great surprise, however, the buck suddenly sprang to his feet and made a tremendous rush at the hunter, with a view of throwing him off the ledge. But what was more remarkable, the animal succeeded in its effort, though not until Vandever had obtained a fair hold of the buck's antlers, when the twain performed a somersault into the pool below. The buck made its escape, and Vandever was not seriously injured in any particular.

Another famous hunting-ground in the United States lies on the shores of the Lower Mississippi—that river extending from New Orleans to the mouth of the Missouri, a distance of about twelve hundred miles. Its shores are covered with dense forests of cottonwood and cypress, where the panther and the wolf roam in native freedom, and the eagle swoops upon its prey undisturbed by the presence of man. On either side of the boundary line (the forty-ninth parallel), between the United States and what are called the Hudson's Bay territories, from the river Snake or Lewis up to the Saskatchewan, herds of wild buffaloes afford ample sport both to the Indians and Americans; the former attacking them with the bow and arrow and the spear, the latter with the rifle-pistol, as shown in our Illustration. Seal-hunting is a favourite and exciting sport on the St. Lawrence, the harpoon being used on the water and the rifle on shore; and it is recorded of one man that in a single tide he slaughtered one hundred of those animals with a tomahawk.

In the three accompanying Illustrations of this stirring sport the weapon employed is the revolver invented by Colonel Colt. His case shows a completeness of practical adaptation combined with the abstract inventive quality which has had an immediate result in his personal fortunes. The man of genius may invent, but only the man of business and combination could have applied so many operations of machinery already known to his invention as Colonel Colt has done.

Colonel Colt, a native of Connecticut, United States, began life, at the early age of thirteen, in a seafaring capacity on board a vessel bound for the East Indies; and some years afterwards, when still very young, he began to turn his attention to devising some means of producing a repeating fire-arm suitable for such a country as America, where on the vast western frontier the settler requires to protect himself. In our late memoir of Mr. Hart, the American sculptor, we alluded to the necessity the settler was under of being his own smith and carpenter at times; but he must, also, be his own policeman—hence the necessity of a protective weapon of a formidable nature. The double-barrelled gun and pistol are both imperfect arms, inasmuch as when once fired the process of reloading gives time to the assailant to attack in the interval. Thus, in the Florida war the Seminole Indians, who handled the rifle quite as well as the Americans, being mounted, rushed down on detached parties, and, having first drawn their fire, would dispart them before they had time to reload. No sooner, however, did they see, to their astonishment, five or six shots fired one after another without the delay of reloading, than they at once considered their tactics as thenceforth useless, and came to an accommodation with the Government.

The idea of a repeating fire-arm is an old one. A matchlock of the fifteenth century, having a revolving barrel with four chambers, mounted on an arbor and parallel with and welded to the barrel is in the armoury of the Tower. Two similar ones are in the Musée d'Artillerie at Paris. Others, of Oriental origin, are now in Europe. In the Museum of the Hôtel de Cluny, at Paris, is an arm of the seventeenth century with a pyrites lock and eight chambers, with ignition somewhat on the principle of the Prussian needle-gun; the object being to prevent a simultaneous discharge from all the chambers. Another pistol in the United Service Museum has six chambers, and is said to have been constructed in the time of Charles I.; but this arm possesses no means of regulating the contact of the breech and the barrel, so as to prevent the spread of lateral fire and the simultaneous discharge of all the chambers. Infernal machines without number, down to that of Fieschi, have been constructed, but have the character of the simultaneous, and not the serial or repeating, discharge.

The embryo invention of Colonel Colt himself was that of a number of collated barrels revolving upon a spindle by the act of cocking the lock, and it was the very weight and inconvenience of this new, yet formidable arm, that led Colonel Colt to place the principle of the revolution not in the barrels, but in a rotating cylinder with chambers, and only one barrel. This idea was superior to the other in a geometrical ratio, not only by the abbreviation of the length of the heavy multiple apertures, but, the weight being thrown close to the hand, the large expenditure of leverage was avoided.

As regards the mechanism of repetition, the trigger action of the revolver of Deane and Adams is pronounced to be the most rapid by the writer of an elaborate article on "Gunmaking," in the now publishing edition of the "Encyclopædia Britannica;" but it is not by any means so safe a weapon as Colt's; anything catching the trigger sending the charge off, as in the case of a late lamentable accident in the Crimea, where Mr. Gavin, an eminent surgeon, was shot. Mr. Colt's revolvers require the hammer to be drawn up every time of firing; both he and the writer in the "Encyclopædia Britannica" consider every pistol having the trigger action to be an unsafe weapon. One feature of Colonel Colt's is worthy of notice, and that is the admirable simplicity and effective power of the lever ramrod, which is part of his patent, saving much time in the loading of the chambers, and sending the charge right home with perfect ease.

Among the experiences of the Colt revolver we know none more interesting than those of Mr. Catlin, the celebrated American explorer and sportsman, or more decisive as to its efficacy. While descending the River Trombatus, in Brazil, in a canoe, Catlin was in the habit of passing the mid-day heats under the shade on shore. One day he was roasting a wild hog for dinner and saw a large panther a couple of rods off playing with the legs of his companion who was asleep, and lifting them up with his paws. Catlin went cautiously down for his revolver rifle which had been left in the boat. But the panther had put down his head behind the sleeping body, so Catlin giving a whistle, the panther raised his head just the height he wanted, and immediately received a ball between the eyes. That the sleeper, on awakening, was astonished at his simultaneous release from the arms of Morpheus and a panther, may be well believed. (See Illustration.)

Another instance of the revolver principle applied to the rifle is in what is called "water hunting" in that part of North America in which Mr. Catlin describes himself as having been "raised." In the warm nights of summer the deer come down to the rivers to bathe and feed on the aquatic plants. The difficulty with the ordinary rifle was that only one shot could be got, as, from their rapidity and shyness, they are out of sight in a moment. Mr. Catlin, on one occasion, returning to the scenes of his boyhood on the shores of the Susquehanna, organised a party on a fair night, and seven deer were brought down by the revolver rifle, other deer having gone off bleeding.

Medicine in illness is considered the *summum bonum* among the Indians. In a buffalo chase which took place on the north fork of the Plate River, out of five shots which Catlin fired right and left in immediate succession while at the full gallop, four were successful in bringing down unwieldy buffaloes. Hence the highest metaphor expressive of excellence was applied to Colt's Revolver by the Indians, and to this day it is called, in the language of that district, "the medicine gun."

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, April 12.—Easter Sunday. America discovered, 1492.
MONDAY, 13.—Easter Monday. Handel died, 1759.
TUESDAY, 14.—Siege of Silistria commenced, 1854.
WEDNESDAY, 15.—Mutiny at Spithead, 1797.
THURSDAY, 16.—Buffon died, 1788.
FRIDAY, 17.—Benjamin Franklin died, 1790.
SATURDAY, 18.—American Revolution, 1775. Judge Jeffreys died, 1689.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 18, 1857.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
3 45	3 58	4 12	4 28	4 45	5 05	5 30
5 52	6 13	6 40	7 07	7 37	8 10	8 45

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—SPEZIA, GUIGLINI, VIALETTI, BENEVENTANO, POCCHINI. Opening Night, Tuesday, April 14. Opera—LA FAVORITA; Ballet—LA ESMERALDA. For particulars see Bill. The same Opera and Ballet will be repeated on THURSDAY, April 16, it being an Extra Night, not included in the Subscription. A limited number of Boxes in the Half-circle Tier have been specially reserved for the public, and may be had at the Box-office of the Theatre, Colonnade, Haymarket, price One Guinea and One Guinea and a Half each. The doors will open at 7, the opera commence at half-past 7.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE. GRAND EXTRA NIGHT, THURSDAY, April 16. SPEZIA, GUIGLINI, VIALETTI, BENEVENTANO, POCCHINI. Opera, LA FAVORITA. Ballet, LA ESMERALDA. (For particulars see bill.) A limited number of Boxes in the half-circle Tier have been specially reserved for the public, and may be had at the Box-office, at the Theatre, Colonnade, Haymarket. Price One Guinea, and One Guinea and a Half each. The doors open at seven; the Opera commences at half-past seven o'clock.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA, LYCEUM.—FIRST NIGHT OF THE SEASON.—On TUESDAY, April 14, 1857, will be performed Bellini's Opera *IL FURTO*. Principal characters by Madame Grisi, Signor Grimaldi, Signor Tagliacozzi, Signor Polonini, Signor Solli, and Signor Gardoni. Conductor, Mr. COSTA. After which will be given a new Divertissement, entitled LES ABELLES, in which Mlle. Delechaux (her first appearance), Mlle. Esper, Mlle. Battalini, and Monsieur Desplaces will appear. The Theatre has been entirely re-decorated, and the boxes and stalls rendered more commodious. The admission to the Pit and also to the Amphitheatre and Stalls, will be through the principal entrance in Wellington-street. There will be a communication between the pit and the boxes. Pit, 5s.; Amphitheatre Stalls, 7s. and 5s. The Opera will commence on each evening at Half-past Seven o'clock.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—MONDAY, April 13, and During the Week, the new Drama of A LIFE'S TRIAL; with a new classical Love Story, under the Appellation of ATALANTA; or, The Three Golden Apples; in which Miss M. Oliver, Miss Marie Wilton, and Miss E. Terman will appear. With GRIMSHAW, BAGSHAW, and BRADSHAW. For new arrangement of prices, see bills of the day.

ROYAL PRINCESS' THEATRE.—ON EASTER MONDAY and during the Week will be presented Shakespeare's Tragedy of KING RICHARD II.; King Richard II., by Mr. C. Keen; Queen, by Mrs. C. Keen. Preceded by A GAME OF ROMPS.

THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.—Easter Monday, WELCOME, LITTLE STRANGER; THE ELVES; or, the Statue Bride. In which Mlle. Celeste will appear. To conclude with A NIGHT AT NOTTING-HILL. Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, "Like and Unlike;" "The Elves; or, Statue Bride;" to conclude with "Welcome, Little Stranger."

ASTLEY'S ROYAL AMPHITHEATRE.—Easter Monday, April 13th, and during the week, a New Grand Military Spectacle, introducing Mr. W. Cook's stud of Trained Horses, called the FRENCH IN ALGERIE; after which a novel SERIES OF EQUESTRIANISM. Miss Kate Cook in her elegant act of Manège. Appearance of Croquette, the Impeccable Clown, and Signor Corelli. To conclude with the TAILOR OF TAMWORTH. Commence at 7 o'clock.

GREAT NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, SHOREDITCH.—NOTICE.—TWO GRAND MORNING CONCERTS, on EASTER MONDAY and TUESDAY, at half-past 12. 130 Vocal and Instrumental Performers; 60 in the Band on the Stage. Conductor, Mr. ISAACSEN. No advance in the prices. Mr. PHELPS, the eminent Tragedian, will appear every Evening during Easter week.

ROYAL SURREY GALLERY.—Miss P. HORTON.—Mr. T. and Mrs. GERMAN REED will give their positively LAST PERFORMANCES of their POPULAR ILLUSTRATIONS during Easter Week, commencing MONDAY next, April 13. Admission to Area, 2s.; Dress Circle, 2s. 6d. Tickets may be obtained at Jullien and Co.'s, Regent-street; and at Keith, Provost, and Co.'s, 48, Cheapside.—Mr. and Mrs. German Reed will reappear at the Gallery of Illustration, Regent-street, on Monday, April 27, in an entirely new Entertainment.

SACRED HARMONIC SOCIETY, Exeter-hall.—Conductor, Mr. COSTA.—FRIDAY NEXT, APRIL 17, will be performed HANDEL'S JUDAS MACCABEUS. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Madame Rudersdorf, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Montem Smith, and Mr. Thomas. With Orchestra of 700 performers. Tickets, 3s.; Reserved, 5s.; and Stalls, 10s. 6d. each, at the Society's office, No. 6 in Exeter-hall. Post-office orders to be payable to Robert Bowley, at the Charing-cross office.

ST. MARTIN'S HALL.—HANDEL'S MESSIAH will be performed (not in the Subscription) on THURSDAY, APRIL 9, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah. Principal Vocalists: Miss Banks, Miss Martin, Miss Dolby, Mr. Sims Reeves, Mr. Thomas. Tickets, 1s. and 2s. 6d.; Stalls, 5s. Commence at Eight.

MR. ALBERT SMITH'S MONT BLANC, BADEN, UP the RHINE, and PARIS, is NOW OPEN every evening (except Saturday) at Eight o'clock. Stalls, 3s.; area, 2s.; gallery, 1s. Stalls can be secured at the Box-office, Egyptian-hall, Piccadilly, every day, between Eleven and Four, without any extra charge.—The Morning Representations take place every Tuesday and Saturday, at Three o'clock.

GOMPERTZ'S PANORAMA of the LATE WAR will be exhibited at GRANTHAM the week commencing March 30th; after which it will visit Nottingham, Cambridge, and probably Lincoln and Leicester.

GENERAL TOM THUMB (WILL SHORTLY CLOSE) at PRINCE OF WALES BAZAAR, 209, Regent-street.—Three Levees daily, from Half-past Twelve to Two, Half-past Three to Five, and Half-past Seven to Nine o'clock. This world-renowned American Man in Miniature (the smallest man alive) has appeared three times before Her Majesty, and is liberally patronised by the Nobility, Gentry, and Public. He appears in a great variety of interesting Performances, Costumes, Songs, Dances, Statues, Imitations, &c. Admission, 1s. and 2s.

THE SISTERS SOPHIA and ANNIE, in their Original Entertainment, entitled SKETCHES from NATURE, will appear at the MUSIC HALL, HULL, April 14th, 15th, 16th, and 17th.

GRAND VERDI FESTIVAL at EXETER-HALL.

Three Operas in One Night.—On MONDAY NEXT an abridged performance of RIGOLETTO, LA TRAVIATA, and IL TROVATORE, will be given, embracing every subject of interest in the Three Operas. Vocalists: Madame Clara Novello, Miss Louisa Vining, Miss Dolley, Mr. Millard, Mr. Weiss, and Mr. Sims. The Orchestral Union of 50 performers, and Chorus. Conductor: Mr. Alfred Mellon. Stalls, 5s.; Reserved Seats, 3s. 6d.; Tickets, 2s. 6d., 2s., and 1s., to be had of Boocoy and Sons, Holles-street, and all the principal music-sellers.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Patron: H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT. EASTER HOLIDAYS. GRAND MORNING CONCERT Daily at Three o'clock, and EVENING CONCERT at Eight, by the unrivalled HUNGARIAN BAND, which has been strengthened by the addition of other Performers. Conductor, Herr Kalozay. Also engagements, for the Evening Concert, of Mr. Lohr and Miss Hemming, and the Brothers Alfred and Henry Holmes, who have just returned from Vienna. New Lectures by J. H. Pepper, Esq., "On the Use and Abuse of the Fire Annihilator;" also, "On the Chemistry of Bread, and its Adulterations." Stevens's Exhibition—very costly, grand, and most beautiful Comoroan Transparencies of China and other places. New Series of Dissolving Views, illustrating the Localities of the present War, with an interesting Lecture on the Manners and Customs of the Chinese, by A. E. Spencer, Esq. Also, another New and very imposing Series of Dissolving Views, illustrating "Egypt in the Time of the Pharaohs," with appropriate Music by the Orchestra of the Institution, and Description written and delivered by Leicester Buckingham, Esq. Admission to the whole, 1s.; Children under Ten, and Schools, half-price.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF MUSIC.—The EASTER TERM COMMENCES on MONDAY, APRIL 20th, 1857, on which day candidates for admission must attend at the Institution for Examination, at Three o'clock.

By order of the Committee of Management, J. GIMSON, Secretary.

MISS P. HORTON (Mrs. German Reed) and Mr. T. GERMAN REED'S Popular ILLUSTRATIONS during EASTER WEEK at the SURREY GARDENS, Every Evening, at Eight. Mr. and Mrs. Reed will REAPPEAR at the GALLERY of ILLUSTRATION on MONDAY, 27th APRIL, with an Entirely New Entertainment.

MR. W. S. WOODIN'S OLIO of ODDITIES, with New Costumes and various novelties, Vocal and Characteristic, EVERY EVENING (Saturday excepted), at Eight. A Morning Performance every Saturday, at Three. Private Boxes and Stalls may be secured, without extra charge, at the Box-office—Polygraph Hall, King William-street, Charing-cross. The Hall has been entirely redecorated.

MR. G. W. MARTIN'S Prize Glee, Madrigals, Part Songs, &c., will be performed at the HANOVER-SQUARE ROOMS on THURSDAY EVENING NEXT, APRIL 16, by a Chorus of 200 carefully-selected voices. M. Bonedict and Mr. Lindsay Sloper have kindly consented to perform a Duet on two Pianofortes. Stalls, numbered, 10s. 6d.; reserved seats, 5s.; unreserved, 2s. 6d.; to be had at the principal Music-shops. Doors open at 7.30; performance commence at Eight o'clock.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTION of FINE ARTS, PORTLAND GALLERY, 316, Regent-street (opposite the Polytechnic).—The above Society's TENTH ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the WORKS of MODERN PAINTERS is NOW OPEN from Nine till Dusk.—Admission, One Shilling. Catalogues, Sixpence. BELL SMITH, secretary.

EXHIBITION.—Messrs. DICKINSON'S GALLERIES of PORTRAITS NOW OPEN. 114, New Bond-street. Admission, One Shilling.

THE NIGHTINGALE FUND.—It is intended to close this Fund during the first week in May, and to lay a detailed Report of Proceedings before the public, when the Trustees appointed by Miss Nightingale will receive the amount subscribed as a record of "national gratitude," and to enable her to establish an Institution for the training, sustenance, and protection of Nurses and Hospital Attendants. It is, therefore, respectfully requested that all outstanding subscriptions be forwarded to the Honorary Secretaries, and that local Secretaries will be pleased to make up their accounts in order that they may be properly acknowledged and recorded.

Office of the Nightingale Fund, 5, Parliament-street, Westminster. SIDNEY HERBERT, } Honorary S. C. HALL, } Secretaries.

COMMERCIAL DOCKS, ROTHERHITHE, SURREY.—Direct Railway Communication between the Commercial Docks and the South and South-Eastern Districts of England, including H.M. Dockyards at Portsmouth and Chatham, and H.M. Victualling-yard at Gosport. The above communication being now completed, great facilities are afforded for the conveyance of all kinds of Timber, Deals, Staves, and Wood Goods generally, as well as Grain, Flour, Seed, Cattle, and other goods. The Commercial Dock Company have ample accommodation for the storing of such goods, which can be delivered direct to or from the Quays and Warehouses and the Railway without the expense or risk of lighters. Full particulars of rates for Carriage, Wharfage, Storing, &c., may be obtained on application at the Commercial Dock Office, 106, Fenchurch-street, London; at the Commercial Docks; and at the various Stations of the London, Brighton, and South Coast, and the South-Eastern Railways. H. K. SMITHERS, Jun., Secretary. Commercial Dock, 31st March, 1857.

IKLEY WELLS HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT and HOTEL.—This splendid Mansion is situated amidst mountain scenery, in Yorkshire, and affords a resort for 100 guests. Physician, Dr. Kischanek. For Prospectus (with view) address Mr. STRACHAN, Ikley Wells, near Oadby.

SUPERB FLOWER SEEDS for early sowing, sent post-free, at the annexed prices.—100 fine Hardy Annuals, 5s.; 50 ditto, 3s.; 30 ditto, 2s. 6d.; 12 ditto, 1s. 2d. Descriptive Catalogues, with sample packets, for 3d.—From WILLIAM KNIGHT, Florist, 67, High-street, Battle, Sussex.

THE AQUARIUM.—Living MARINE and FRESH-WATER ANIMALS and PLANTS, sea-water tanks, glasses, and every other requisite on sale. An Illustrated priced and descriptive list on application. The Tanks by Sanders and Woolcott, at their prices.—W. ALFORD LLOYD, 19 and 20, Portland-road, Regent's-park, London, W.

GEOLOGY and MINERALOGY.—Elementary Collections, to facilitate the study of this interesting Science, can be had from Two Guineas to One Hundred; also single specimens, of J. TENNANT, 149, Strand, London.

STEREOSCOPES and STEREOSCOPIC PICTURES at SPENCER, BROWNING, and Co.'s.—Hand Stereoscopes, 6d. each; Views, from 1s. 6d. per dozen.—Great Novelty. Swiss and other Views mounted as Transparencies, and exhibiting the effects of Sunrise, Moonlight, &c.; price 1s. 6d. each, only at Browning and Co.'s, 111, Minories, E. The trade supplied.

CAVALRY COLLEGE, RICHMOND, SURREY. (Proposed to be Incorporated under Royal Charter.)

Field-Marshal the Right Hon. Viscount Combermere, G.C.B., G.C.H. VICE-PATRON. Major-General John Mitchell, late Royal Staff Corps. Major-General John Lawrenson, late 17th Lancers. Colonel J. McDonnell, late 2nd Life Guards. Colonel Lord George Paget, C.B., 4th Light Dragoons. Colonel William Campbell, Queen's Bays. Colonel C. Doherty, 13th Light Dragoons. Colonel Darby Griffiths, C.B., 2nd North British Dragoons. Col. John Kinloch, late Life Guards, Inspector General of the German Legion. Lieut.-Colonel Walker, Staff. Lieut.-Col. E. C. Hodge, C.B., 4th Drag. Gds. Viscount Haselagh, late 1st Life Guards. Lieut.-Colonel Campbell, 1st Life Guards. Lieut.-Colonel Trench, late Queen's Bays. Sir Joseph Bailey, Bart., M.P. A. F. W. Montague, Esq.

Resident Commandant.—Wallace Barrow, Esq., late Captain 17th Lancers. Superintendent of Studies.—J. H. Stoequeler, Esq. Adjutant.—James Chambre, Esq., late Captain 14th Light Dragoons. Assistant-Adjutant.—Robert Mitchell Glover, Esq., late Captain Ottoman Contingent, and formerly of the 3rd Dragoon Guards.

Professor of History, Geography, and Military Sciences.—J. H. Stoequeler, Esq. Physician.—Dr. Macdonough, late Medical Staff, Member of the Legion of Honour. Veterinary Surgeon.—Alfred J. Rogers, Esq., M.R.C.V.S. Secretary and Registrar.—Henry Manning, Esq.

Bankers.—Messrs. Charles Hopkinson and Co., Regent-street. Solicitors.—Messrs. Carlon and Haynes, Palace Chambers, St. James's-street.

The object of this Institution is to give a good Military Education to the Sons of Noblemen, Gentlemen, and Officers of the Army, who are desirous of placing their sons in the Cavalry, or other branches of the Service as a profession.

The Pupils will be divided into two classes:—One class consisting of those who have been educated after the ordinary fashion, or who may have passed their examinations at Sandhurst or Addiscombe; and the other class, of young gentlemen who have to be prepared in all the essentials of an officer, a gentleman, and a useful member of society.

The First Class—at whose option it will be to reside at the college or elsewhere—will be instructed in the Theory of War, Riding, Sword and Foot Drill, Field Fortification, Camouflage, Cavalry and Infantry Manœuvres, Gunnery, Reconnaissance and Military Surveying, Veterinary surgery, and any of the branches taught to the Second Class in which they may desire to be perfected.

The Second Class, from fifteen years of age and upwards, will be instructed in Latin, Greek, French, Italian, German, the Asiatic Languages, Moral and Political Philosophy, History, Geography, Mathematics, Natural History, Cosmography, Physical Sciences, Descriptive Geometry, Botany, Chemistry, Permanent Fortification, Drawing, Mapping, Gymnastic Exercises, and generally in all the branches taught to the Upper Class.

It is now admitted to be of great importance that a gentleman first joining a Regiment, should be as capable of immediately commencing his duties as that any member of the learned professions should be prepared to enter upon his functions. To facilitate this object, and to obviate the highly objectionable practice of placing Cornets and Ensigns, as soon as they have joined their respective Corps, under a Drill Sergeant, the Drills at the Cavalry College will be carefully superintended by the qualified officers of the establishment.

Looking at the vast importance of sound morals to the formation of a good Soldier, the religious instruction of the Pupils will be carefully attended to by the Chaplain, who is a Clergyman of the Church of England.

No Pupils under fifteen years of age will be received; and it is recommended that all Pupils remain at the College until they obtain certificates of qualification for the Army for presentation at the Horse Guards or the East India House.

The charge for each Pupils of the First Class, including Board and Tuition in all the above branches, will be Fifteen Guineas per annum, and of the Second Class One Hundred Guineas per annum.

The right of admission of Second Class Resident Pupils will be acquired by the purchase of Certificates, each Certificate entitling the holder to present a Pupils. The amount to be received by the sale of Certificates will be appropriated to the expenses attendant upon the formation of the College, and for providing Horses, Uniforms, Books, Furniture, &c.

The price of Certificates may become a subject of special agreement, where more than one son or near relative of an Officer of the Army or Navy may be admitted.

The Vacations at the College will commence on the 10th of August, and terminate on the 30th of September. Leave of absence for one or two weeks at Christmas will, however, be allowed on special application, if the conduct and progress of the pupils shall have justified the indulgence.

Applications regarding admission, and information as to the system to be pursued, and form of application for Certificates, may be obtained of Captain Barrow, No. 5, Richmond-green, Richmond, close to the College and the Railway Terminus.

SINGING.—Mrs. PLUMMER (PUPIL of CRIVELLI, and Professor of Singing at Queen's College, Tufnell-park) TEACHES, at her own or Pupils' Residences, ENGLISH, FRENCH, GERMAN, and ITALIAN SINGING, on MODERATE TERMS. Mrs. Plummer's method ensures rapid proficiency in the first principles, facilitates the Cultivation and Development of the Voice, graceful delivery of Solifragia, the art of Vocalising, and distinct enunciation of Words.—Address 7, Stanhope-terrace, Gloucester gate, Regent's-park.

WANTED by a young Person of superior education, English and French, a SITUATION as SHOWMAN with a Draper, Silk-mercer, or Confectioner. A good reference to last place.—Address, E. C. Post-office, Ipswich.

TO PARENTS and GUARDIANS.—Wanted a respectable YOUTH, as an APPRENTICE, in the HOSIERY, GLOVE, and SHIRTMaking BUSINESS.—Apply to HENRY LEATH, 302 and 303, High Holborn.

SMART'S WRITING INSTITUTION, 5, Piccadilly, between the Haymarket and Regent-circus.—Open from Ten till Nine daily. Persons of all ages received (privately) and taught at any time suiting their own convenience. Lessons one hour each. No classes; no extras. Improvement guaranteed in eight to twelve lessons. Separate rooms for Ladies, to which department (if preferred) Mrs. Smart will attend.—Apply to Mr. Smart, as above.

DON'T BEAT YOUR CARPETS.—They can be thoroughly cleansed from all impurities, the Colours revived by pure Washing, and returned in Three Days. Price 3d. and 4d. per yard. Turkey and extra heavy Carpets in proportion.—METROPOLITAN STEAM WASHING COMPANY, 17, Wharf-road, City-road, N.

WASHING IN EARNEST.—Dirty Blankets, Counterpanes, Quilts, and Tablecovers, pure-washed in large or small quantities, at a moderate cost. Yearly contracts made with Hotels and Institutions for all their heavy articles. The Company's vans receive and deliver free of charge, no matter how small the quantity.—METROPOLITAN STEAM WASHING COMPANY, 17, Wharf-road, City-road, N.

EYESIGHT.—Optical Improvements, to enable persons at an advanced age to read with ease, and to discriminate objects with perfect distinctness.—Messrs. SOLOMONS, Opticians, have invented and patented SPECTACLE LENSES of the greatest transparent power. The valuable advantage derived from this invention is that vision becoming impaired is preserved and strengthened; very aged persons are enabled to employ their sight at the most minute occupation; can see with these lenses of a much less magnifying power, and they do not require the frequent changes to the dangerous effects of further powerful assistance. Persons can be suited at the most remote parts of the world by sending a pair of spectacles, or one of the glasses out of them, in a letter, and stating the distance from the eyes they can read small print with it, and those who have not made use of spectacles by stating their age.—39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W. (opposite the York Hotel).

DEAFNESS.—A newly-invented Instrument for extreme cases of Deafness, called the Sound Magnifier, Organic Vibrator, and Invisible Voice Conductor. It fits so into the ear as not to be in the least perceptible; the unpleasant sensation of ringing noises in the head is entirely removed. It affords instant relief to the deafest persons, and enables them to hear distinctly at church and at public assemblies.—Messrs. SOLOMONS, Opticians and Aurists, 39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W. (opposite the York Hotel).

SPORTSMEN and GENTLEMEN of the ARMY and NAVY.—S. and B. SOLOMONS, Opticians, 39, Albemarle-street, Piccadilly, W. Observe, opposite the York Hotel—Portability, combined with great power, in FIELD, RACE-COURSE, OPERA, and general out-door day and night powerful Vision. The pocket PERSPECTIVE GLASSES, weighing only four ounces, each containing 12 and 18 lenses, constructed of German glass, will show distinctly a person's countenance at 24 and 3 miles. They serve every purpose on the Race-course, and at the Opera-house. Country scenery and Ships are clearly seen at 8 to 10 miles. They are also invaluable for Shooting, Deer-stalking, and Yachting. Her Majesty's Coast-Guards are now making use of them as day and night glasses, in preference to all others; they have also become in general use by Gentlemen of the Army and Navy, and by Sportsmen, Gentlemen, Gamekeepers, and Tourists. The most powerful and brilliant Telescopes, possessing such extraordinary power that some, 34 inches, with an extra astronomical eye-piece, will show distinctly Jupiter's moons, Saturn's ring, and the double stars; with the same Telescope can be seen a person's countenance three-and-a-half miles distant, and an object from fourteen to sixteen miles. All the above can be had of larger or all sizes, with increasing powers, and are secured by Her Majesty's Royal Letters Patent.

PULVERMACHER'S Medical ELECTRIC CHAIN (approved by the Académie de Médecine, Paris, and rewarded by the Great Exhibition), a discovery of extraordinary curative properties to which no pills or any other medicine can be compared. All persons, or any number in a family, can use it, and convince themselves, by seeing and feeling the wonderful phenomena it produces, how infallible and instantaneous are its effects upon the body. Thousands of cures show how remarkable yet truly natural and efficacious, it is in rheumatism, neuralgia (as head and tooth ache), liver complaints, indigestion, asthma, lumbago, gout, sciatica, deafness, colds, spasms, epilepsy, paralysis, and all nervous affections. Chains, 4s. 6d. and upwards. Pulvermacher and Co., 73, Oxford-street, adjoining the Princess' Theatre. Agents: Wells and Son, 62, Strand; Savory and Moore; Butler and Harding, 4, Cheap-side; Hew, 282, Regent-street; Williams, 64, Piccadilly; Wood, 117, Cheap-side; Harley, 26, Leadenhall-street; Palmer, near the Angel, Islington; Pharmacie Italiana, 16, Tichborne-street, Regent Quadrant; and Freeman and Wright, High-street, Kensington.

DESIRABLE COUNTRY RESIDENCE TO BE LET.—In a delightful Hunting and Fishing locality, in the county of Herts. The House comprises spacious Drawing and Dining Rooms, Five good Bed-rooms, Kitchen, Servants' Offices, Wine and Coal Cellars, with Two Three-stall Stables, Carriage and Chaise House, productive Garden, Orchard, and Meadows (about five acres), with a Right of Fishing in the river Colne, a celebrated river for fish; the whole surrounded with large Parks and Seats of the neighbouring Gentry. Rent £50 per annum.—Apply on the Premises, Mill-end, Rickmansworth, Herts, near the Watford Station on the London and North-Western Railway.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 1857.

As the time approaches for the assembling of the new Parliament, curiosity is naturally excited on the question of the Speakership. With a majority so strong as the Government possesses, Lord Palmerston has but to designate the candidate whom he will favour for that dignified office, to secure the adhesion of the Liberal party, and to render hopeless all competition from the opposite side of the House. The names of no less than six gentlemen have been put forward, either by themselves or by their friends, or by the rumours of the newspapers and the clubs. Three of them—viz., Mr. Matthew Talbot Baines, Mr. Henry Fitzroy, and Mr. Evelyn Denison—are Liberals, or supporters of the Government; two of them, Sir Frederic Thesiger and Mr. Spencer Walpole, support the pretensions and the policy of Lord Derby; and the sixth, Mr. Stuart Wortley, less decided in his political opinions, steers a middle course between Liberalism and Conservatism, and may be considered to belong either to the one or to the other. Never were so many unexceptionable persons named in one breath for an important public function. There is not one of these gentlemen whose personal and moral qualities and high political status would not grace the chair of the first Legislative Assembly in the world. But as, in a case like this, the Government cannot be expected to favour the pretensions of political opponents, however greatly they might be qualified to pre-empt over the deliberations of the Commons, the pretensions of Sir Frederic Thesiger and Mr. Walpole will remain for the consideration of Lord Derby and Mr. Disraeli, and not for that of Lord Palmerston. It is likely that one of the two will be selected to oppose and be defeated by the Ministerial candidate. For some days it was generally supposed that the honour of defeating the Conservative candidate would be reserved for Mr. Stuart Wortley. But as this gentleman is in ill health it became necessary to discover another candidate with equal or greater qualifications. The person required was found, firstly in Mr. Baines, and secondly in Mr. Fitzroy. Within the last few days, however, it appears to have been decided on the part of the Government that neither of these gentlemen possesses all the requisite qualifications for the office. Mr. Baines, an estimable man, with a good voice and a gentlemanly presence, a favourite in the House, a sound lawyer, a member of the Government, and a partisan who has earned advancement at the hands of his party, combines in his person all possible qualifications except two—a greater degree of youth and a clearer vision. The want of these two requisites is understood to have proved fatal to his pretensions. Mr. Baines is in his fifty-eighth year, and is shortsighted. The first disqualification—if disqualification it be—might have been endured for the sake of other merits; but the second objection, though it might have been set aside in an aspirant for the Chancellorship of the Exchequer, or for any other office in or out of the Government, was not to be surmounted in a candidate for the Speakership, whose eye, as well as whose judgment, must be in constant requisition for the maintenance of order.

Mr. Fitzroy, who, besides being eight years younger, laboured under no physical disqualification—whose presence, like that of the late Speaker, would have given grace as well as dignity to the chair, and who had gained large experience of the forms of the House in his capacity of Chairman of Committees—was the candidate next in favour. But he, too, appears to have been set aside for what appears a not very sufficient reason—that he is the heir-presumptive to his brother, Lord Southampton, and might be called to the Upper House in the middle of a Session. Another candidate was therefore found in the person of Mr. Evelyn Denison, against whom no objection has been started except that he is fifty-seven years of age. As he is hale and strong, and likely to be equal to the duties of the Speakership for ten years to come, this objection loses its force.

If the Conservative party desire at the very commencement of the Session to have a trial of strength, they will put forward either Sir Frederic Thesiger or Mr. Walpole, to oppose Mr. Denison. But Lord Palmerston has the result in his own hands, and whomsoever the Government may designate will be elected, whatever steps the Opposition may be induced to take. Lord Palmerston has, it is asserted, made up his mind in favour of Mr. Denison. If so, that gentleman will be the Speaker, either with or without a contest.

An *Extraordinary Gazette*, published on Saturday last, absolutely prohibits the importation into Great Britain and Ireland of cattle, hogs, horns, and hides, from the ports of the Baltic. The measure has long been anticipated, as an act of precaution which a Government alive to the interests and the health of the people was imperatively bound to adopt. We have not heard that any symptoms of the cattle-disease have yet been discovered in the British Isles, and it is, therefore, possible that this country may, with the blessing of Providence on the human agencies employed, be spared the frightful calamity of a murrain. Although the British people derive their principal supplies of beef and veal from British pastures, the prohibition will naturally tend to raise the price of beef and mutton. There is no present reason to suppose that the rise will be sufficiently heavy to interfere with the comforts of the labouring population; or that it will be accompanied by an increase in the price of articles of prime necessity. Perhaps the alarm excited by the near presence of the danger may be conducive to the public benefit in other respects, which will be the case if the attention of agriculturists and sanitary reformers be directed to the subject of the proper treatment of cattle, in health as well as disease. Hitherto very insufficient attention has been given to the housing of cattle; and too commonly, especially in the immediate neighbourhood of large cities, animals intended for human food have been huddled into sheds and outhouses hot, close, unventilated, and reeking with all unutterable abominations. When disease has resulted as an inevitable consequence of such neglect and ignorance, the diseased animals have been slaughtered, and sent, without compunction or remorse, to the markets of the metropolis. The poor are thus made to pay high prices not only for that which is worthless, but for that—far worse—which is absolutely pernicious.

It is not enough that sanitary reformers should devote their attention to the drainage of towns and the ventilation of streets and houses, to the procuring of abundant and cheap supplies of pure water, and to the personal cleanliness of the people, if the seeds of disease and infection are to be disseminated in the food which the poorer portions of the population are compelled to consume. In London a great and needful measure of sanitary police would be the supervision of slaughter-houses. Better still would be their immediate and total abolition, and the establishment at convenient stations in the environs of large, cleanly, well-regulated public *abattoirs*, such as those which have so long existed in Paris. Under proper and very easy regulation, it would be difficult for diseased cattle to be brought into such places, and impossible for their flesh to be exposed for sale as an article of food. The existing slaughter-houses of the metropolis are a nuisance, a scandal, and a horror—a positive disgrace to a community that boasts of its civilisation and its humanity. Should the murrain, in spite of all the precautions which the Government has taken, unfortunately make its appearance amongst us, it is probable that in the midst of the alarm, and at the last moment, additional precautions will be taken to prevent the carcasses of diseased cattle from being sold for food. It would, however, be infinitely better if such precautions were taken before the occurrence of the evil. In some respects London is a model city, and an example to the world. In others it has everything to learn from wiser communities; and amongst the subjects on which it is both ignorant and careless is that of its filthy slaughter-houses—a true portraiture of which, in all their horrors, would be sufficient to convert nine-tenths of the population to Vegetarianism. Among the hundred and odd gentlemen who have found seats in Parliament for the first time, is there none who will take up this subject? It offers an admirable opportunity for some man of energy and ability to make himself a noble reputation, and to earn the gratitude of the public. Let us hope that, even without the impulse of a murrain, some such man may be induced to bestir himself in the public cause, and merit a place in the long list of the benefactors of humanity.

THE SPEAKERSHIP.—The *Manchester Guardian* states that as Mr. Baines's name is now generally mentioned as a likely candidate for the Speakership, and as his chances of success are favourable, it has become a question among the electors of Leeds whether he should not be called upon to retire from the representation of that constituency. As the Speakership is not a Government office, it will not be necessary for Mr. Baines to offer himself for re-election. At the same time, it is considered in Leeds that it would be only proper for Mr. Baines to resign his trust, and accept the minor duties and responsibilities of some little borough. In the ensuing Session of Parliament many questions of great commercial importance will be brought before the House, and it is a matter of earnest necessity that Leeds, with its great local interests, should be efficiently represented in the council of the nation. A Speaker would be precluded, by his office, from giving that attention to the local interests of his constituents which would be required; and therefore it is that a very general feeling is expressed in Leeds that Mr. Baines should retire. In that event it is not unlikely that Mr. W. E. Forster, of Burley, will again be placed in nomination.—The *Times* of Thursday mentions Mr. Evelyn Denison as a candidate for the Speakership, in addition to Mr. Baines and Mr. Fitzroy. We have little doubt that either Mr. Denison or Mr. Baines will be the ultimate choice of the House.—*Globe*.

The Turkish Government intends to contract for ten small war steamers to be built in England, for the maintenance of order in the Black Sea, according to the terms of the Treaty of Paris.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

ELECTION PETITIONS IN THE NEW PARLIAMENT.—A number of petitions will be presented to the House of Commons complaining of certain elections for the new Parliament. By the 11th and 12th Vict., c. 98, election petitions are to be presented to the House within fourteen days. Before a petition is presented a recognisance is to be entered into by one, two, three, or four persons as sureties for £1000, or £250 each, for the payment of all costs and expenses. The sureties are to make affidavits of their sufficiency. Instead of sureties, money may be paid into the Bank of England. There is a good deal of patronage attached to the office of Speaker of a new Parliament. He is to appoint an examiner of recognisances. The Speaker is to appoint a general Committee of Elections, and members above sixty years may be excused. The petitions are to be referred to select committees, who are to report to the House. The words of the 6th section are:—"And be it enacted that every such Select Committee shall try the merits of the returns or elections complained of in the election petitions referred to them, and shall determine by a majority of voices, if for the time being consisting of more than one member, whether the sitting members, or either of them, or any and what other persons, were duly returned or elected, or whether the election be void, or whether a new writ ought to issue, which determination shall be final between the parties to all intents and purposes, and the House, on being informed thereof by the Committee, shall order such report to be entered in the journals, and shall give the necessary directions for confirming or altering the return, or for ordering a return to be made, or for issuing a writ for a new election, or for carrying the said determination into execution, as the same may require." By another provision the Committee may report any other determination to the House for its confirmation or rejection.

THE PRINCE OF WALES AND THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—On the 2nd inst. his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, accompanied by Colonel Phipps and Mr. Gibbs, visited the works of Messrs. Glass, Elliot, and Co., at East Greenwich, for the purpose of witnessing the process of manufacturing the submarine cable to be laid down between Newfoundland and Ireland. His Royal Highness was received by Mr. Glass, who explained the method and machinery by which the cable is spun off. Messrs. Samuel Gurney, T. H. Brooking, and Cyrus W. Field, directors of the Atlantic Telegraph Company, were in attendance; and Mr. Charles Bright, the engineer, and Mr. Whitehouse, the electrician to the company, showed some interesting experiments and apparatus in connection with this great enterprise. His Royal Highness appeared much interested at the details given, and on leaving expressed great satisfaction at the arrangements and mechanism employed.

ARCHDEACON DENISON'S CASE.—Sir J. Dodson, the Dean of the Court of Arches, has appointed Monday, April 20, and following days, for hearing the appeal in Archdeacon Denison's case from the Court held last year by the Archbishop of Canterbury at Bath. In the event of an adverse decision by the Dean of Arches, it is the intention of the Archdeacon to prosecute a further appeal before the Judicial Committee of Privy Council.

NORTH-WEST LONDON PREVENTIVE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTION.—A meeting of the friends of this institution was held on Tuesday afternoon in the New-road, at which the Lord Bishop of London delivered a farewell address to ten young men who have been inmates of the reformatory and are about to emigrate. The institution was established for the prevention of crime and reformation of criminals in the year 1852, and commenced with only six inmates. At present there are 82 persons in the institution, of whom 17 are about to emigrate, and one is training as an industrial assistant for a reformatory. The results which have attended the working of this institution are shown by the fact that of 96 persons who have left it since its opening, 10 have emigrated, 32 have been established in trade, 20 have enlisted in the army or navy, 9 have been received by their friends, 15 have prematurely quitted from dislike of the discipline, 2 have been dismissed for misconduct, 5 are in service, 1 is labourmaster at another reformatory, and 2 are dead. The proceedings having been opened with prayer, the Bishop of London addressed the meeting in an impressive speech. The observations of the Bishop were listened to with great attention both by the young men and by the audience generally, and at their conclusion there were some murmurs of applause. His Lordship then offered up a prayer; and, a hymn having been sung by the young men, the Bishop gave the benediction, and the proceedings terminated.

REMOVING THE REMAINS OF COVENT GARDEN THEATRE.—The removal of the ruins of Covent-garden Theatre commenced on Saturday last, for the purpose of clearing the ground for the erection of the Royal Italian Opera House, and must be completed by the 16th inst., when the demolition of the walls will commence. It is expected that the works for the foundation of the new theatre will be sufficiently advanced for the laying of the first stone to take place early in June.

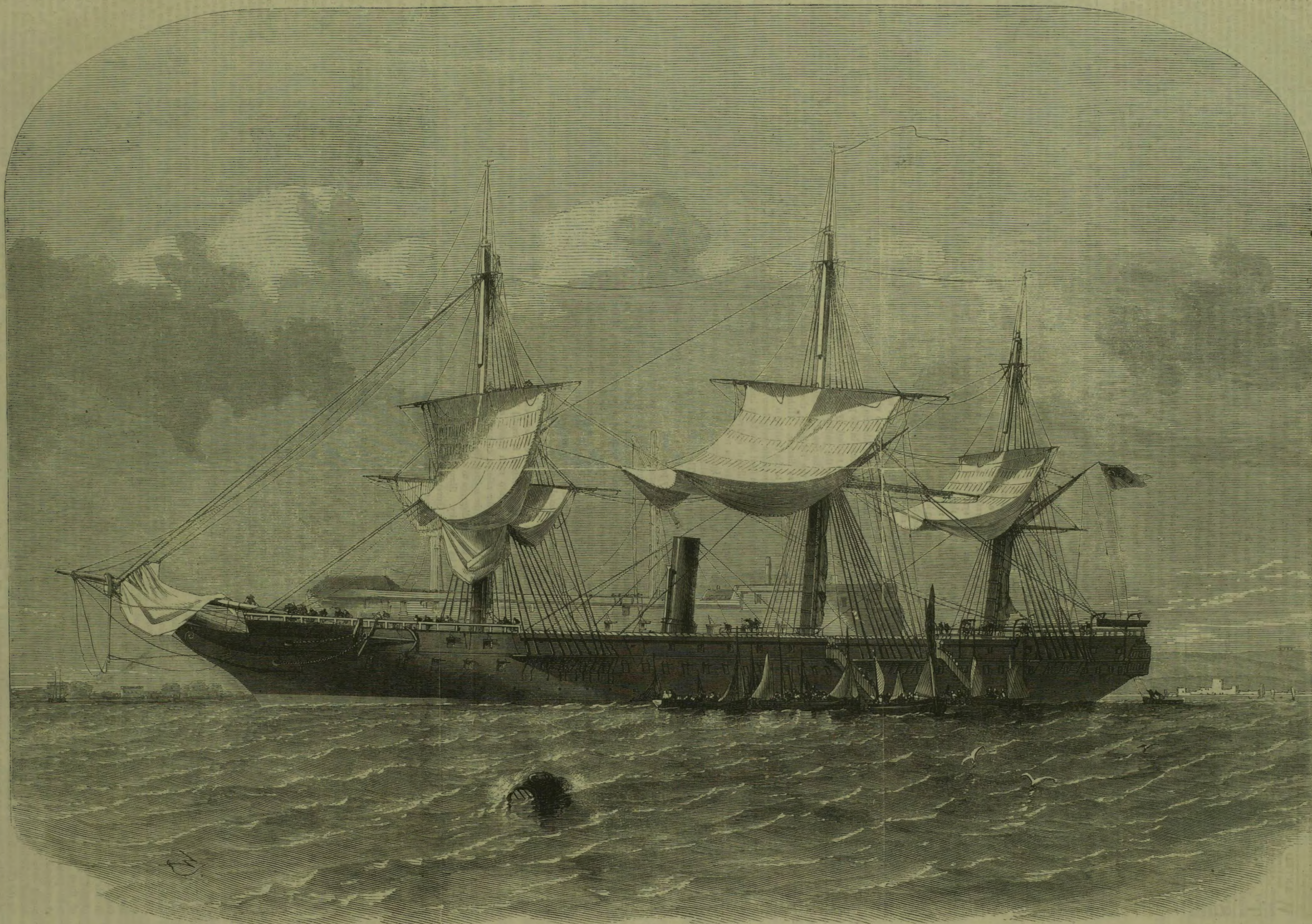
CLEVER CAPTURE OF A THIEF.—Last Monday morning a young man who had been attempting to appropriate a quantity of plate belonging to Mr. Wm. Grieve, 1, Queen's-road, Regent's-park, was caught in the act, and taken into custody. The robbery took place while the servants were at breakfast in the kitchen. The nursemaid heard a noise in the dining-room, where the breakfast service was laid out. On going up she saw the prisoner jump out of the window and run away. She gave chase, crying out "Police!" A man who was driving a van jumped down and joined in pursuit, and he and a tradesman, who had run out of his shop, came up with the prisoner in Park-street. The prisoner made a stab at each of them with a silver fork, but the prongs were too blunt to do harm. Other forks and some spoons were found on him. He was brought up at Marylebone Police Court on Tuesday; and, after the above evidence had been given, was remanded for a week.

H.M. TROOP-SHIP "TRANSIT," REFITTING FOR CHINA IN PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR.

The refitting and storing of troop-transports and vessels of war for China is being proceeded with both at Portsmouth and Woolwich with the greatest dispatch. The vessel in our Engraving, one of the noblest of the fleet of troop-ships, the *Transit*, was built by Messrs. C. Mare and Co., of Orchard-yard, Blackwall, and has been fitted out with the greatest care by the Government for the comfort and health of the troops who have departed in her. She is of 2570 tons burden, and furnished with engines, by the Messrs. Napier, of 500-horse power. The accompanying Illustration represents the noble ship in Portsmouth Harbour.

On Wednesday last the *Transit*, Commander Chambers, embarked at Portsmouth 193 of the Medical Staff Corps, 30 of the Royal Engineers under Lieutenant Campbell, 286 of the 90th Foot, and 119 of the 59th Regiment, for China. Sir R. Airey, Quartermaster-General of the Army, together with Major-General Breton, commanding the south-west district, Colonel Wright, Assistant Quartermaster-General, and Brigade-Major Nelson, minutely inspected the *Transit* on the troops embarking; they also inspected the *Himalaya*, which was to embark the head-quarters of the 90th at the end of the week for the same destination. She will be immediately followed by the *Adventure*, *Assistance*, and other vessels of the same class. Her Majesty's steam-paddle frigate *Furious*, and the convoy of dispatch gun-boats and other fighting craft of light draught, are expected to be all ready for sea by the beginning of next week.

On Thursday morning the *Transit* returned to Spithead almost in a sinking state. After leaving Spithead, about four p.m. on Wednesday afternoon, she encountered a dense fog as she approached the Needles, scarcely half the ship's length being discernible ahead. The lead seems to have been kept going, and ten fathoms were sounded, when the fog lifted, and a ship was found to be on the *Transit*'s starboard bow. The latter stood on a little further, sounding seven fathoms, when another vessel was sighted, and, in order not to give her a foul berth, the *Transit* still went on, and at length anchored in five fathoms, the officers of the ship congratulating themselves on having so good a position, it being near to Hurst Castle, on the Lymington shore of Hants. Some pilots and preventive officers, indeed, who came off to the ship to ascertain what she was, told the commander of her that she was in a capital position. All then went on well, and the troops turned in and made themselves comfortable. At daylight, however, on Thursday morning it was reported that the ship was making water fast, and that there was already five feet of water in the hold. The anchor was weighed, and, on its being sighted, it was found to come up with half the stock gone. It then became apparent that, on the setting in of the young flood, the ship had been driven on her anchor, and had knocked a hole in her bottom. The water by this time had rapidly gained ahead, nine feet being reported. The donkey engine was set to work and manned by the troops and the crew, and Commander Chambers put her about and brought her back to Spithead. On his signals being sighted, the officers of the steam factory were at once sent out to her in a steam-tug, and she was ordered into harbour, a pilot being sent to her to bring her in. On coming in she was placed alongside the *Bellerophon* hulk, and her troops transferred to the latter. The mail that she had on board was returned to the Post-office. The powder and shell were also taken out, to prevent the ship sinking. She was then brought alongside the dockyard, the fire-engines of which were in operation all night to keep the ship afloat.



HER MAJESTY'S TROOP-SHIP "TRANSIT," REFITTING AND RECEIVING STORES FOR CHINA IN PORTSMOUTH HARBOUR.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE CLOCK-TOWER AND SPEAKER'S RESIDENCE, NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.-(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE CLOCK-TOWER AND SPEAKER'S RESIDENCE. NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

THE view chosen by our Artist for his representation of the Clock-Tower is the river front facing the Thames, from whose banks it rises majestically, and joins the residence of the Speaker of the House of Commons. This tower is an elegant object, from whichever point it may be viewed. Its grand and graceful proportions can only be estimated by an appeal to figures, and we therefore give a general idea of them. The total height of the tower to the top of the final is 310 feet. The roof is composed of cast iron, galvanised; the final at top is of wrought copper, gilt; and the total weight of the roof is estimated at 300 tons. The walls are of brick, faced with stone, and are three feet and a half in thickness. The area within the walls is occupied by a shaft for the weights and pendulum for the clock, and an air-shaft. There are also eleven stories of rooms and a staircase. One of the rooms will be appropriated for the confinement of those members who may be placed in the custody of the Sergeant-at-Arms. These rooms are all fireproof: from their windows there is a pleasant view of the river and the roofs and crocketed towers of the long pile of building stretching to Abingdon-street. The foundation of this tower is laid upon a bed of concrete upwards of fifteen feet deep; the brickwork commences at about fourteen feet below the level of the ground, upon the top of the concrete. The extraordinary thickness of this concrete foundation will not surprise the reader when he considers the great weight of the walls themselves; the weight of the roof; the ponderous great bell, and the four quarter bells; the necessary supports for the bells, and the large machinery of the great clock and its dials.

The walls have been erected under two contractors—the lower part to the Clock-Tower, we believe, by Mr. Grissell; the upper by Mr. Jay, the contractor at the present time for the New Palace works. The sculptural decorations are by Mr. John Thomas, of the Alpha-road; and the metal roof by Mr. Jabez James. The ornamental work in metal is partly by James and Hardman, of Birmingham. The gilding is by Mr. Crace. Of the Speaker's residence adjoining we shall have occasion to speak when its interior is finished. It is an elegant pile, corresponding in height and proportions to the Abingdon-street end, which is used for the Lord Chancellor's residence, and the attendant officials.

The accompanying View has been drawn and engraved by J. and A. Williams.

THE WEATHER.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE CAMBRIDGE OBSERVATORY, FOR THE WEEK ENDING APRIL 8, 1857.

Day.	Barometer at 9 a.m. above level of sea, corrected and reduced.	Highest Temperature.	Lowest Temperature.	Adopted Mean Temperature.	Dry Bulb at 9 a.m.	Wet Bulb at 9 a.m.	Dry Bulb at 3 p.m.	Wet Bulb at 3 p.m.	Direction of Wind.	Force of Wind (in miles).	Rain in Inches.
April 2	29.170	55.7	42.2	47.6	48.5	47.3	55.6	50.6	SSE.	7	0.034
" 3	29.580	55.4	40.4	47.3	51.6	50.1	54.0	51.3	SSE.	9	0.012
" 4	29.795	56.8	38.4	46.9	50.5	47.0	52.3	50.8	SSE.	10	0.646
" 5	29.687	63.2	47.4	53.6	52.6	52.6	62.9	58.3	SE.	10	0.000
" 6	29.624	60.4	47.9	52.6	55.2	53.4	58.4	55.4	SE. SW.	10	0.000
" 7	29.918	60.2	40.1	51.4	54.5	52.0	59.7	55.0	SW.	5	0.014
" 8	29.948	59.8	39.8	51.0	54.4	51.0	58.9	52.9	SW.	4	0.004
Means	29.675	58.8	42.3	50.1	52.5	50.5	57.4	53.5			0.710

The range of temperature during the week was 24.8 degrees. The sky still continues much overcast, and the weather showery and unsettled. Rain was falling heavily and continuously throughout the evening of April 4; and a few light showers occurred on the days of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, and on the afternoon of the 7th. The wind was blowing freshly from the S.S.E. and S.S.W. on the day of the 2nd, but it has been otherwise calm. The sky was clear on the evenings of April 2nd, 3rd, and 7th; and partly so on the days of the 7th and 8th. A corona was noticed round the moon on the night of the 2nd. The horizon was misty on the days of April 5th and 6th.

J. BREEN.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE NEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above sea 34 feet.

DAY	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOMETER.		WIND.		RAIN in 24 hours. Read at 10 A.M.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Minimum at 10 A.M.	Maximum at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours.	
April 1	29.409	46.7	39.9	79	0-10	40.7	53.8	SW. SE.	294	0.059
" 2	29.263	47.5	43.6	87	8	45.6	55.3	SSW.	487	1.05
" 3	29.619	48.5	43.5	84	10	45.7	55.2	SE. W. SW.	160	0.022
" 4	29.769	47.2	46.0	96	10	41.8	52.0	S. SE.	190	0.010
" 5	29.595	54.6	48.7	82	10	50.4	64.6	ESE.	191	0.677
" 6	29.646	52.4	49.4	90	9	50.9	60.8	S. SW.	185	0.066
" 7	29.945	49.8	47.5	92	9	44.0	59.2	SW.	209	0.000

The daily means are obtained from observations made at 6h. and 10h. a.m., and 2h., 6h., and 10h. p.m. on each day, except Sunday, when the first observation is omitted. The corrections for diurnal variation are taken from the Tables of Mr. Glaisher. The "Dew-point" and "Relative Humidity" are calculated, from observations of the dry and wet bulb thermometers, by Dr. Apjohn's Formula and Dalton's Tables of the Tension of Vapour. The movement of the wind is given by a self-recording Robinson's Anemometer, the amount stated for each day being that registered from midnight to midnight.

BRUHNS' COMET.—The comet detected by M. Bruhns at Berlin, on March 20, appears to be a more important discovery than was at first imagined, there being but little doubt that it is a reappearance of the comet found by M. Brorsen in February, 1846, and which was expected to come again into sight in May or June of this year. This comet was sought for in vain during the winter of 1851; but its great distance from the Earth, and the short time it remained above the horizon after sunset, or could be seen before sunrise, made the search very difficult and uncertain on that occasion; and its position in the sky was otherwise very doubtful. The orbit of this comet bears a strong resemblance to those of 1532 and 1661, which were previously surmised by Halley to be one and the same; but, if so, it has considerably diminished in size and lustre since those periods, the comet of 1532 being described as having a head three times the size of Jupiter, and with a tail of ten degrees in length; whilst that of 1661 had a tail of five degrees in length. The comet has become somewhat brighter during the last fortnight, and is faintly visible in an ordinary two-feet telescope furnished with a low power. A considerable condensation of light is now perceived at the centre, instead of the diffused appearance represented in the Engraving in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of April 4. The right ascension of the comet on April 11th is 3h. 34m., and the North Polar distance 53 deg. 44 min. On April 16th the right ascension will be 4h. 2m., and the North Polar distance 47 deg. 18 min. On the evening of April 14th it will be situated close to Epsilon Persei. It arrived at perihelion on March 29th; but it was not expected before the latter end of June. This is the fourth comet of short period whose return is known with certainty; the others being Encke's, Biela's, and Payer's. The period of Bruhns' comet is 2026 days.—J. B.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL.—Through an error of the engraver of the Illustration at page 274 it is designated as the Choir of Carlisle Cathedral, instead of Chancel, a small portion of the Choir. The Cathedral is dedicated to the "Holy and Undivided Trinity," and not to St. Mary as you state; the Priory, which was suppressed in 1540, was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin; and the nave of the Cathedral is at present used as the Parish Church of St. Mary's: hence, perhaps, the error.—From a Correspondent.

FRENCH PATRONAGE OF SCIENCE.—On the invitation, and under the auspices of the Emperor of the French, Mr. Thomas Allan, of London, has come over here to exhibit to a scientific commission, appointed by the Emperor, an electro-magnetic engine of Mr. Allan's invention, which solves, I am assured, the difficult problem of the application of electricity to the movement of machinery. Mr. Allan has received every encouragement from his Majesty, and every facility from the Government officials. His engines are now at work at the engine manufactory of M. Cail, whither scientific men, anxious to test this new motive power, are flocking to witness the experiments. Napoleon I. was greatly interested in this scientific problem, and the present Emperor is not less so, and is, I hear, about to order a practical application, as an experiment, to a locomotive engine.—Paris Correspondent of the Morning Post.

ADVISES FROM TOULON state that the arrival of the Grand Duke Constantine is fixed for the 22nd inst. Preparations are going on very actively in the port and arsenal for the reception of the Prince, which is intended to be very brilliant. A squadron of war steamers will set out to meet the Russian squadron which accompanies the Grand Duke.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

THE intelligent and unintelligent inhabitants of Edinburgh seem to rejoice in hot and cold fits of literary enthusiasm not to be paralleled in any other city in the three kingdoms. Auld Reekie, as represented by *Ebony* Blackwood, has in *Maga* of this month a long, and perhaps unnecessary, remonstrance with Charles Dickens. Some four months ago all Holyrood and the Canongate was up in arms against the living Mr. Thackeray, and in favour of Mary Queen of Scots, beheaded at Fotheringay, we are afraid to say (without book) how many years since. But mark the change. In this very month all Edinburgh that was up in arms against Mr. Thackeray has had a more sensible fit, and all the well-informed joined in doing honour to Mr. Thackeray at a public dinner given to the great novelist in "Scotia's darling seat." The novelist's two speeches are both admirable; and we are assured by those who were present that they are not too well reported.

The youngest man of the great brewery brewage in London has this week been returned to Parliament to represent Middlesex "to wit;" and only last week the oldest representative of the brewers of London died in Piccadilly, at the great age of ninety-three. Mr. Hanbury-Truman and Co.—has been returned for the metropolitan county of Middlesex; and Miss Thrale, Viscountess Keith—the daughter of Thrale's *entire* (now Barclay's)—passed from among us. Lady Keith is frequently mentioned in Johnson's letters to the mother of Lady Keith. Lady Keith was the last survivor of all who are mentioned in Boswell's great work. Without any pretensions to literature, she was essentially literary—thanks to Dr. Johnson and James Boswell. But she had another claim to be mentioned in a column of talk about literature and art—she knew Sam. Johnson and she refused Sam. Rogers.

Manchester has this year absorbed much of the interest which the lovers of art extend—always with pleasure—to Trafalgar-square. Manchester will prove such an enlarged casket of all that is valuable from Cimabue to Mr. Leighton, that the millions who must flock to Manchester will afterwards run—not, we fear, to Trafalgar-square, but—to trout-streams and the sea-side. But Sir Charles Eastlake and Co. will not lose by this all-important exhibition, which Manchester is to show so lavishly and so well.

The mention of the excellent President of the Royal Academy reminds us—pleasantly enough—that a very able man, an antagonist to the Royal Academy and to the National Gallery, has been returned by a large majority to Parliament, to represent the important constituency of Brighton. Mr. William Coningham (a new M.P.) is a gentleman well versed in art, and one anxious, and now additionally able, to make our National Gallery what a British National Gallery ought to be.

What is Lord Broughton about? And what is to be the result of those many sittings of the committee for determining the site of the new National Gallery? Artists allege—and authors fall into their way of thinking—that this Royal Commission will be a piece of huge blue-bookism, swamping a good Gallery by its members listening with large and idle ears to every wild proposition that talkative and foolish witnesses insist, in frothy pertinacity, to carry out. Is this the case, Sir John Cam Hobhouse?

Is Mr. Ruskin to be Professor of Poetry at Oxford? Is Mr. Ruskin Tom Warton? Oxford would have a difficulty in finding a better man to represent the Nine Muses in her cathedral city than Mr. Ruskin. It is true that he is not a rhymist, but he is a poet, one "sown by nature," and most unquestionably a full-stringed bird of "poetic prose." A great poet tells us—

Of little use the man, you may suppose,
Who says in verse what others say in prose.

But Mr. Ruskin says in poetic prose what clever men attempt to say fruitlessly in profitless verse.

Well, not another word from us against any Dean and Chapter, most certainly not against the Dean and Chapter of Westminster. The new Dean and the old Chapter have lent the Jerusalem Chamber portrait of King Richard the Second (the earliest authentic portrait on board or canvas of an English Sovereign) to the Gallery of British Portraits in the Manchester Exhibition. Other Deans and other Chapters should go and do likewise.

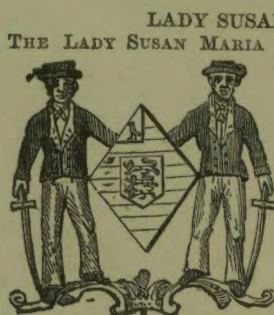
The literary renown of Scotland is not maintained by living men at the same high rank to which it was elevated in the bygone days of Sir Walter Scott and Professor Wilson; and Edinburgh is no longer the metropolis of literature. We rejoice to see that Scotchmen are becoming aware of the falling off, and that they are making an effort (somewhat better than talking of the wrongs of the Unicorn) to restore Scottish literature to its ancient lustre. To aid in this object there has been formed a "Scottish Literary Institute" to promote generally the encouragement of literature in Scotland, and to include in one association the cultivators of literature connected with this portion of the United Kingdom, so as to conduce to mutual co-operation and friendly intercourse among the members; to provide a fund for the relief of literary persons in indigent circumstances; to provide chambers in Edinburgh for the meetings of the institute, which shall be patent to members as a place of literary resort; to furnish means of obtaining literary information to members, especially to those residing at a distance from public libraries; to secure the delivery of lectures, from time to time, on useful and interesting subjects, in the principal towns; and to establish correspondence with learned individuals and societies in foreign countries, for the purpose of literary inquiry and information. The president of the society is Mr. Alexander Baillie Cochrane; and the vice-presidents are Sir James Stuart Menzies, Bart.; Professor Blackie, Edinburgh; Robert Bald, F.R.S.E., Edinburgh; and Charles Mackay, LL.D., F.S.A., London. The association already numbers more than a hundred influential members, and will, no doubt, prove both successful and useful.

THE NEW REFORM BILL.—At an entertainment given to Mr. R. Hall, M.P., Recorder of Doncaster, by Mr. G. Dunn, Mayor of that borough, on Wednesday, Mr. Beckett Denison, M.P. for the West Riding, in reply to a complimentary toast, said he had now been elected for the West Riding for the fourth and, he believed, the last time ("No, no!"). He said for the last time because he felt that in the first place he had arrived at the eleventh hour of his life, and in the next because he believed that before another general election the West Riding would be cut up into smaller divisions under a new Reform Bill. He would not offer any objection to such a measure as that, for he confessed that a constituency numbering some 37,000 voters was too large for any two members to do justice to. He admitted that the time had arrived for introducing some measure of Parliamentary Reform, and he should certainly vote for the second reading of such a measure, unless—which he did not expect it should go too far. In that measure of Reform Doncaster would in all probability be included as one of the new boroughs authorised to send a member, if not two members, to Parliament, for he found on looking over the statistics of population that Doncaster, Rotherham, and Keighley were, in point of numbers, the three largest unrepresented towns. Mr. Hall, in returning thanks for the toast of his health, said in the present state of political parties it would be absurd for him to enter into any pledges; but he might say this, he should vote for the second reading of the expected Reform Bill, because, whether that bill were introduced by Lord Palmerston or Lord J. Russell, he felt it would not be of so wild a character that he could not support it, believing, as he did, that the time had arrived for revising the representation of the country.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

VISCOUNTESS KEITH.

THE RIGHT HON. HESTER MARIA, VISCOUNTESS KEITH, the eldest daughter of Dr. Johnson's celebrated friends, Mr. and Mrs. Thrale, died at her town house, 110, Piccadilly, on the 31st ult., in her ninety-third year. Her Ladyship was the second wife of the renowned Admiral George Keith Elphinstone, who for his great naval services was created successively Baron and Viscount Keith, and who died in 1823. Her Ladyship was married to the Admiral in 1808, and had a daughter, Georgiana Augusta Maria, now the widow of the Hon. Augustus Villiers, second son of the present Earl of Jersey. The Viscountess Keith's stepdaughter is the present Baroness Keith, who inherited her father's Barony only, pursuant to special limitation.



LADY SUSAN MARIA HOTHAM.

THE LADY SUSAN MARIA HOTHAM was the eldest daughter of William, second Marquis of Thomond, whose Marquisate is now extinct, and whose Barony of Inchiquin is held by the present Sir Lucius O'Brien, Lord Inchiquin. Lady Susan was born the 10th March, 1804; and was married, the 12th August, 1824, to Rear-Admiral the Hon. George Frederick Hotham, who was brother of the present Lord Hotham, and who died the 19th Oct., 1856. By this marriage her Ladyship had seven children, of whom three only survive her—viz., Charles, a Lieutenant in the 18th R. I. Regiment (heir presumptive to the Barony of Hotham); John, in the Navy; and Susan Frances. Lady Susan Maria Hotham died at Tunbridge Wells on the 25th ult.

LADY DUFFUS.

THE death of the Right Hon. Janet, Lady Duffus (the result of the accident which befel her Ladyship upwards of a month ago), occurred on the 15th ult. Her Ladyship had just entered her eighty-ninth year. This venerable lady was the eldest daughter of George Mackay, Esq., of Bighouse, Sutherland, and in early life possessed great personal attractions. In 1784 she was married to Sir Benjamin Dunbar, Bart., of Hempriggs, Caithness-shire, who succeeded his cousin as sixth Lord Duffus in 1827, and died in May, 1843; leaving issue by her Ladyship two sons, the elder of whom is the seventh and present Lord Duffus, and one daughter, now Mrs. Gordon Duff, of Hatton.

SIR J. K. SHAW, BART.

SIR JOHN KENWARD SHAW, sixth Baronet, of Eltham, Kent, was the eldest son of Sir John Gregory Shaw, the fifth Baronet, by his wife, Theodosia Margaret, daughter of John, second Lord Moston. He was born the 15th March, 1783, and succeeded his father as sixth Baronet the 28th October, 1831. He married, in 1809, Charlotte, second daughter of William Lloyd, Esq., of Betchworth, Surrey, but has had no issue. The worthy Baronet, who was a Deputy Lieutenant of Kent, and, from 1832 to 1853, Colonel of the West Kent Militia, died at Paris on the 17th ult. He is succeeded by his nephew, John Charles Kenward Shaw, now the seventh Baronet, the only son of the late Captain Charles Shaw, R.N., by his wife, Frances Anne, fourth daughter of Sir Henry Hawley, Bart.

This Baronetcy of Shaw is a very old one. The first Baronet was John Shaw, a citizen of London, and a staunch Cavalier, who rendered essential service to Charles II., by advancing him money during his exile, and who, in reward, was, after the Restoration, made a Farmer of the Customs, and was created a Baronet the 15th of April, 1665.

SIR JOSHUA RICKETTS ROWLEY, BART.

SIR JOSHUA RICKETTS ROWLEY, third Baronet, of Tendring Hall, county Suffolk, Vice-Admiral of the Blue, was the representative of a family distinguished in our naval annals. He was the great-grandson of the famous Admiral Sir William Rowley, K.B.; the grandson of Sir Joshua Rowley, also an eminent Admiral, who was created a Baronet in 1786; the nephew of Admiral Sir Charles Rowley, G.C.B. (who obtained another Baronetcy for his naval services); and the eldest surviving son of Sir William Rowley, the second Baronet, by his wife Susannah Edith, daughter of Admiral Sir Robert Harland, Bart. He entered early in life the Royal Navy, where he passed through an active and honourable career. He became Rear-Admiral of the Red in 1853, and Vice-Admiral of the Blue in 1855. He succeeded his father in his Baronetcy the 26th October, 1832. He was Sheriff of Suffolk in 1841, and was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of that county in 1844. He married, the 10th August, 1824, Charlotte, only daughter of John Moseley, Esq., of Great Glenham House, Suffolk, but has had no issue. The gallant Vice-Admiral died at his town residence, 61, Wimpole-street, on the 18th ult. He is succeeded by his next brother, Robert Charles Rowley, a Captain, R.N., now the fourth Baronet, who married, in 1830, Maria Louisa, only daughter of Joshua, second Lord Huntingfield, and has issue.

WILLIAM WINGFIELD YATES, ESQ.

WILLIAM WINGFIELD YATES, Esq., of Holne-Cot, Devon, formerly of Parkfields, Staffordshire, who died on the 28th of January last, was the grandson of William Yates, Esq., of Springside, Bury, Lancashire, and the elder son (the Rev. Samuel Wildman Yates, Vicar of St. Mary's, Reading, being the other son) of John Yates, Esq., of Barlaston Hall, Staffordshire, by his wife, Harriett, daughter and coheir of Wingfield Wildman, Esq., grandson and heir of John Wingfield, Esq., of Norton and Hazle Barrow, Derbyshire. Mr. William Wingfield Yates was born on the 27th of January, 1792, was educated at the Royal Military College at Marlow, and, at the age of sixteen, entered the British Army as an Ensign in the 47th Regiment. He was with that regiment throughout the Peninsular War; and was present, among other engagements, at the Battles of Barossa and Vittoria, for which he obtained a medal with clasps. He was, during the retreat from Burgos, employed to bring up Sir Lowry Cole's division to join Lord Hill's army, which important service he performed by riding two hundred miles across a most difficult country. He was severely wounded in a foraging party on the banks of the Douro; and at the Battle of Vittoria he was so dangerously wounded in both his legs as to be compelled to leave the Army. He married, in 1817, Cecilia, third daughter of John Peel, Esq., of the Pastures House, Derbyshire, by whom he had issue five daughters and eight sons. His eldest son is Lieutenant-Colonel Edmund Robert William Wingfield Yates, late of the 82nd Regiment, for many years Military Secretary to General Sir William Gomm, in Jamaica, the Mauritius, and the East Indies. Others of Mr. Yates's sons have served with distinction in the British and the Austrian armies.

WILLS.—The will of the Hon. and Rev. Adolphus Augustus Turnour, Vicar of Besthorpe and Rector of Tattersett, Norfolk, has been proved in London under £18,000 personality; Lieut.-Gen. the Hon. Henry Edward Butler, £14,000; Lieut.-Colonel A. Bolton, £6000; William Wright, sen., of Bridge-road, Lambeth, £120,000; W. MacIntyre, M.D., of Brighton, £3000; R. Saunders, Esq., Henrietta-street, Cavendish-square, £30,000; C. T. Coathupe, Esq., Bristol, £20,000; Charles Shadwell, Esq., Gray's Inn, £45,000; Miss Maria Simpson, of Lichfield, £35,000.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE County Elections have this last week been occupying public attention, and Ministerial triumph has been the rule throughout. This was expected, and, indeed, the Conservatives hastened to find an anticipating excuse for it, alleging that at the accession of Lord Derby to office, and while he was amusing the agricultural mind, positively for the last time, with the fable of possible Protection, several seats, naturally belonging to the Liberal interest, passed over to the Opposition, and are now reclaimed. A bridge of gold for a flying enemy, and the Liberals may accept a solution which will by no means bear being examined. Middlesex refuses Lord Chelsea, and elects Mr. Hanbury in the place of Mr. Bernal Osborne. West Kent throws out the Conservative, Mr. Masters Smith, and returns two Liberals. A Conservative is thrown out for East Sussex. And similar results elsewhere already enable the Ministerialists to claim a very large net gain in the counties. The Conservatives allege that in the boroughs they have lost four seats only; while the Peelites and Manchester men are completely extinguished, and they congratulate the country upon the absorption of outlying factions and the resumption of the legitimate constitutional division of the House into two great parties.

Another mitre having been placed at the disposal of Government, Lord Palmerston is stated to have again taken counsel from Lord Shaftesbury, and to have selected for the See of Norwich another Evangelical aristocrat, the Honourable and Reverend Mr. Pelham, brother to the Earl of Chichester. Mr. Pelham was born in 1811. The High Church party may have reason to complain that their men are so constantly passed over; but there is a very fair House of Commons' answer for them—namely, that the Tractarian view of Church relations with the State by no means favours the right of a Minister to elect the hierarchy at all. It would seem quixotic, therefore, in Lord Palmerston to give lawn to those who would disfranchise him. The allegation that the Evangelicals, with all their zeal and activity, are the least-educated part of the clergy, and find it easier to read Matthew Henry and Scott than Athanasius and Chrysostom, is a charge which may have its weight, but which, in times when we want missionaries as much as scholars in our pupils, may not be so damaging as those who raise it are inclined to believe. But the See of Norwich will not be actually vacant for several weeks or months. In the mean time it is premature to speculate on Mr. Pelham's appointment.

The ludicrous demonstrations of the Belgian Protectionists against England, on account of her Free-trade and desire to see that system adopted on the Continent, are rather subjects for the *Charivari* and *Punch* than for grave comment. The people who confront a question of political economy with a large-stomached figure of John Bull, devouring all he can get, and then throw the figure into the water amid yells and execrations, have too much in common with the negro adorers of Mumbo-Jumbo to be dealt with seriously. But we observe that the Foreign Minister of Belgium has spoken in terms of indignant contempt upon the subject, and has remarked to the Protectionists that, though the English will, no doubt, laugh at them, it is not to the credit of Belgium that the attitude of England towards her should be one of derision. There is no fear, however, lest our countrymen should for a moment confound a few greedy and prejudiced men, leading an ignorant mob, with the people of Belgium, whose character, intellect, and spirit we have long learned to hold in high respect. Belgium might as reasonably take the Kidderminster ruffians as specimens of English electors.

England and Austria have withdrawn from Turkish sea and land, and Russia has abandoned Ismail and the Danube. And so the last evidences of war may be said to be entirely obliterated. The one subject to which English capital and enterprise should now be attracted is the turning to account the grand highway now proposed to be thrown fairly open through the heart of countries whose resources have never yet been appreciated, far less developed. The addition to our debt may be triumphantly avenged on the Danube, with incalculable benefit to Russia, Austria, and Turkey.

The inequality of punishment in England will be an incessant theme for comment until codification shall bring our criminal law into a form in which a synoptical view of the system will enable such absurdity to be corrected. Meantime, the more instances that can be collected the better case for the law reformers. We are not about to refer to a sentence which gave a lad, for throwing a stone at a railway, three months' solitary confinement. The offence might have had grave consequences; and, had a passenger lost an eye, he would scarcely have petitioned for an abbreviation of the imprisonment. The boy, too, may be a hardened young rascal, and the magistrate is probably cognisant of details with which the public is unacquainted. Our present complaint takes a different direction. A card-sharper on a railway seems likely to get twelve months' imprisonment and a whipping for trying to cheat somebody else, who, of course, only played in the hope of getting the better of him; and we have nothing to say against the extirpation of such vermin, except that it is a pity that betting-office keepers and the like are not similarly treated. But, if a boy who throws a stone has three months' and a cheat who wins a penny has twelve, why is a miscreant who skins cats alive to escape with a lighter punishment than either? Neither the woman nor the man who were convicted of this atrocity was sent to solitary confinement; and the latter, who should have been whipped at both ends of the sentence with an interpolated whipping in order to mark the middle of it, has but three months. The only satisfactory point about this last case was the way the scoundrel was hunted to conviction by the boys, and we were glad to see that the magistrate received rewards for them from readers of the journals. If it were made clear to our gamins that they would be paid for detecting such offenders, the shrewdness and energy of the London boy would soon be turned to excellent account.

ANOTHER PAUL VERONESE FOR THE NATIONAL GALLERY.—A letter from Venice in the *Courrier Franco-Italien*, says that the picture of Paul Veronese, called "The Tent of Darius," which he painted for a gift to the Pisani family in return for the hospitality he had received at their house, has just been purchased of the present representatives of that family for the sum of £14,000 sterling, to be placed in "the British Museum at London,"—by which, of course, must be meant the National Gallery. The price is probably exaggerated.

HOW TUTORS ARE PAID.—A short time since there appeared an advertisement requiring a tutor for a family in Yorkshire, to attend to eight or nine boys. This was answered, says a correspondent, by a friend of mine (who obtained high honours in his University), offering to teach classics, mathematics, modern languages, and the usual course of a gentleman's education. You may judge of my surprise when I saw the answer my friend received, which was as follows:—"Dear Sir,—In answer to yours of the 30th of March, respecting your application for the tutorship advertised in the *Times*. 1. You would be treated as one of my own family in every respect with the exception of the washing. 2. You would decidedly have the entire control over your pupils. 3. I am a member of the Church of England, and the stipend which I offer is £20 per annum." To which my friend very properly answered as follows:—"Mr. — presents his compliments to Mr. —, and begs to say that he cannot help thinking the stipend offered is intended as a joke, believing it impossible that any gentleman would willingly offer so great an insult to another. Mr. — would recommend Mr. — to avail himself of the services of one of his own farm-labourers, as that would in all probability (if not too expensive) answer the purpose he has in view."

MUSIC.

PASSION WEEK is attended with almost a total suspension of public amusements. All the theatres put a stop to the entertainments which properly belong to them; and the few musical performances of the week are generally of a grave character, beseeching the sanctity of the season. The principal concerts of the present week accordingly have been of sacred music. The "Messiah" was given by the Sacred Harmonic Society, at Exeter Hall, on Wednesday; and by Mr. Hullah, at St. Martin's Hall, on Thursday; and the "Concert for the People," at the same place on Monday evening, was likewise composed of sacred music.

Of the two performances of the "Messiah" it is sufficient to say that, in regard to the scale in which they were got up, the principal performers who took part in them, and the great audiences by whom they were attended, they were precisely like what they have often been before on similar occasions. But the "Concert for the People" is entitled to a few words of remark. This series of concerts, as our musical readers will remember, was set on foot some six or eight months since, for the benevolent purpose of furnishing to the industrious classes a refined and wholesome entertainment, at so moderate a cost as to be within the reach of almost all, save the very poorest. From the beginning the plan obtained the patronage and support of many persons eminent in station, literature, and art; and, though doubts were entertained of its practicability, yet these doubts have been removed by the result. The concerts have been regularly and steadily carried on, and are found to be self-supporting: the receipts derived from the large assemblages who frequent them being sufficient, notwithstanding the low rates of admission, to defray the expense attending them; though that expense must be considerable, as artists of considerable eminence are employed and paid their regular terms—a fact which we ascertained by personal inquiry. The concert of Monday evening last was a grave and elevated entertainment, and the gratified attention paid to severe and lofty music by a vast audience was a proof that taste and feeling for the highest beauties of art are not confined to wealth or station. Among the performers were Miss Birch, Madame Bassano, and other esteemed singers. There was a small choir of tunable voices, and the vocal pieces were well accompanied on the organ. The selection consisted of airs and choruses from the oratorios of Handel, Haydn, and Mendelssohn; all performed in a manner sufficient to gratify the taste of any one not spoiled by the indulgence of affected fastidiousness. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, with the Sheriffs and Under Sheriffs of London and Middlesex, honoured the concert with their presence, and many families and individuals well known in the musical world were among the audience.

A SERIES of excellent orchestral concerts has been given during the week in Dury-lane Theatre by Mr. Alfred Mellon. The orchestra has been the excellent band formed by himself, and well known by the name of the Orchestral Union, with the addition of some of the principal performers of Jullien's band. The concerts have consisted of the finest orchestral works—symphonies and overtures—of the great masters, with a pleasant admixture of vocal music, in which our most favourite singers have been employed. The audiences, when we were present, have been large; and we trust that these elegant concerts have had the success they deserved.

ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL-ROOM, Brixton.—A selection of sacred music was given here on Tuesday evening last, to a tolerably well-filled room, which, unfortunately, did not pass off very satisfactorily—partly in consequence of the gentlemen forming the orchestra of the Brixton Harmonic Union having withdrawn their assistance. The first part of the evening was given to airs, choruses, &c., taken from the "Messiah," which wanted that vigour in the orchestra and choruses that always, when well performed, impresses its hearers with solemn grandeur. The second part was selections from our best composers, such as Rossini, Spohr, Haydn, Mendelssohn, Costa, &c.—things that were far beyond their reach; such as the recitations and prayers from "Eli" and the like from Rossini and others. As an illustration we might point to that most beautiful air, "Cujus Animam," from the "Stabat Mater" of Rossini, having been badly played on a cornet-a-piston, instead of being sung. It should be added that the professional instrumentalists (who were engaged at the last moment) did all in their power to keep the orchestra and choruses together, but they were far beyond their control.

A MUSICAL PUBLICATION of a novel and attractive character has just appeared in Paris, entitled "The Musical Souvenir of Beauty for Paris, 1856-57," edited by Abelinde S. G. Itae. The work, which has been issued under the immediate patronage of her Majesty the Empress, is on the plan of the English "Book of Beauty," the portraits being those of the most celebrated beauties of different nations, now in Paris, with an accompaniment of appropriate music to each. Among the portraits are those of Mme. de Girardin, Miss Sneyd, the Comtesse de Castiglione, the Comtesse Bodisco, and Mrs. Bristed, representing France, England, Russia, Sardinia, and America. The music possesses considerable beauty and freshness.

THE THEATRES, &c.

HER MAJESTY'S.—The season commences on Tuesday evening. We find that Piccolomini, whom report had described as still pursuing her indefatigable career upon the stage, has been more prudently preparing for the London season by an interval of relaxation, which she has well earned by a series of nineteen representations of the "Traviata," at the Italiens, in Paris. One cannot long be ignorant of her whereabouts, for even her retirement to the home of her friends at Sienna was regarded as a festive occasion, and signalled by joyful demonstrations, the rumours of which have reached us before the prima donna herself. Her arrival, however, may be looked for within a week, as she is known to have left Sienna several days ago. The selection of the opera for her first appearance is, we believe, left undecided until her arrival. "La Figlia," "La Traviata," "Lucia," and the sparkling part of *Zerlina* in "Don Giovanni," have each been suggested as the most appropriate. But, whatever may be the character, the pet of the opera is sure of an enthusiastic welcome.

Spezzia, Guiglini, Pocchini—and, indeed, all the members of the company whose services will be required for the commencement of the season—have been for some time in London; and the opera of "La Favorita" and the "Esmeralda" ballet are in full rehearsal. Important additions have been made to the strength both of the orchestra and chorus: the latter have been reinforced by the best voices from the Italian Opera at Paris; and the additions to the orchestra, besides those who have been before announced as first violins, include Petit, the violoncellist; Torriani and Ghibelli, the principal contra-bass performers from La Scala; Bellot, the celebrated harpist; Colbraun (from the Italiens) and Beletti, well-known and first-rate performers on their respective instruments, the flute and clarinet. This is as it should be; and, under the direction of Bonetti, the public may be sure that every addition to the strength of orchestra and chorus will be used to the best advantage.

The distinguished artiste, Maria Spezzia, is at present chiefly known to the English public by the rumours of the *furor* which her beauty and her talent have created at Milan. After a triumphant season at the Imperial Theatre of La Carobbiaro her services were secured for the stage of La Scala during the visit of the Emperor of Austria. In conjunction with the great tenor Guiglini, with whom she will make her debut among us on the opening night of the season at Her Majesty's Theatre, this charming prima donna achieved a brilliant success in the "Huguenots" and the "Favorita," and, but for her engagement for the London opera, would have continued to reign in acknowledged pre-eminence at the magnificent establishment of La Scala. But this was not an isolated triumph. Notwithstanding her youth, she has already established her fame with almost unprecedented rapidity at Vienna, Turin, Venice, St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Lisbon. The versatility of her genius is shown by the characters which she has triumphantly sustained. *Desdemona* and *Norma*, *Valentine*, *Rosina*, and *Leonora*, the heroines of the "Lombardi" and of Verdi's "Macbeth," and "Trovatore," and the charming "Traviata" are included in her repertoire, and in every instance the genius of the young and handsome prima donna has been rewarded with the most enthusiastic reception. It is curious that the "Traviata," which, in the hands of Piccolomini and Spezzia, has exercised so great a fascination, was, on its first representation, a complete failure. Verdi was in despair until Maria Spezzia came to the rescue, and, by her brilliant and poetical rendering of the principal character, secured the success of the opera, which was repeated for twenty-six consecutive performances, and received with unflagging enthusiasm.

La Spezzia furnishes another example of the overpowering influence of musical art upon Italian natures. Born of a noble family at Vienna, her passion for the stage manifested itself at an early age with so much

intensity that her relations found it impossible to resist her aspirations, and wisely allowed her to pursue the bent of her genius under the guidance of the most celebrated masters, whose instructions have given to her that perfect mastery of her art without which even youth, beauty, and talent often fail to produce a permanent impression.

EASTER AMUSEMENTS, &c.—Mr. C. H. Adams has, as usual, presented his Oratory at the HAYMARKET during the week, accompanied with his annual lecture on astronomy; and Mr. Henry Russell, his entertainment at the PRINCESS'. At the NATIONAL STANDARD Mr. Love also has appeared in "All Shapes," assisted by Herr Zerom and the seven Spanish Minstrels. At the CITY OF LONDON a new experiment has been tried, in order to evade the law which, during Passion Week, deprives regular actors of a week's salary by prohibiting dramatic performances. Instead of extra professors being engaged, the regular company has been employed in exhibiting a monster entertainment, consisting of the action of two pantomimes, concert singing, athletic exercises, exhibitions of the *pose plastique*, and other similar theatrical, though not "dramatic," inventions. A law which can be so easily evaded, and is so manifestly absurd and unjust in itself, should be regarded as obsolete. Tom Thumb has been starring at the SURREY THEATRE; and Herr Wohlgomuth, the German Wizard, at SADLER'S WELLS. The Brothers Alfred and Henry Holmes have revealed the wonders of the violin to admiring audiences at the POLYTECHNIC; while Dr. Buchhoffer has delivered at the COLosseum a daily lecture on astronomy, illustrated by a new and beautiful orrery: Mr. Gordon Cumming continued his lion-hunting narratives at his SALOON in Piccadilly; Mr. W. S. Woodin, at the POLYGRAPHIC HALL, repeated nightly his customary entertainment, the "Olio of Oddities;" and Mr. Albert Smith ascended Mont Blanc at the EGYPTIAN HALL. Mr. Creswick, too, reads "Hamlet" and "Lear" at ST. MARTIN'S HALL; while at the STRAND THEATRE dissolving views have been exhibited, in connection with a comic ballet, entitled "Mad as a March Hare." Mr. and Mrs. T. German Reed announce their intention to give the last performances of their POPULAR ILLUSTRATIONS during Easter-week. Mr. Henry Seymour Carleton announces an original entertainment at ST. MARTIN'S HALL for Easter Monday, to be called "Familiar Faces; or, Old Friends in New Places." A new classical love-story, on the subject of "Atalanta; or, The Three Golden Apples," is also advertised for Easter Monday at the HAYMARKET, when also will commence a new arrangement of prices—the pit being reduced to two shillings, and the galleries to a shilling, and sixpence. We trust that this modification of the tariff will improve the prospects of the management. At the ADELPHI the drama of "Like and Unlike" will be revived, in which, and "The Statue Bride," Madame Celeste will reappear for the holidays. At the PRINCESS' "King Richard II." will be found a sufficient attraction; and no wonder, considering the taste, talent, and judgment displayed in its production. OF SADLER'S WELLS, Mr. George A. Webster takes the management, as heretofore, at this season, and announces the engagement of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dillon, in the dramas of "Pizarro" and "The King's Musketeers;" and these are to be followed by other stars during his conduct of the theatre. At the LYCEUM Mme. Ristori is announced for fifteen performances, to commence the first week in June. Mr. Dillon's season closed on Thursday week, on which occasion he sustained the part of *Richieu*, and made an address to the audience, wherein he stated that his management had been decidedly prosperous, and had indeed yielded a profit which would enable him to recommence in August next with increased prospects of success.—CREMORNE GARDENS are to open on Sunday for refreshment and promenade, and on Monday for amusement during the Easter season. Extensive alterations and improvements are in progress, and will be completed by the commencement of the summer season.

MR. OTTLEY ON THE PREROGATIVE OF THE CROWN.—A lecture in connection with the "Free-trade and Foreign Affairs Association" was given at the office of the Association, Manchester, by Mr. H. Ottley, on the 2nd instant—subject, "The Prerogative of the Crown in connection with the Diplomatic Department, the Signing of Treaties, and the Levying of War." The chairman (Mr. John Buxton) having introduced Mr. Ottley to the meeting, he commenced by alluding to the importance of the subject of our foreign relations, which he considered was next after, if not before, Free-trade. The diplomacy of Courts was of comparatively modern origin; it was not so old as gunpowder, and perhaps owed its origin to the invention of that destructive agent. The ostensible object of diplomacy—to preserve amicable relations between States—would seem to claim for it the character of being the antidote of war; but, looking at the history of the last three centuries, there were reasons for strong misgivings as to whether anything had occasioned more misery and wrong to suffering humanity. The pen had signed away more lives and liberties than the sword had destroyed, and that insidiously. It was when diplomacy became a science and a State engine, when Kings retained Ambassadors in the courts of their neighbours as spies and mischief-makers, that the authority of the people began to subside and to be substituted by the will of the Sovereign. The Treaty of Westphalia, which gave authority to every petty Prince of Germany to make peace or war without reference to the Diet, might be regarded as a chief cause of the great increase of the prerogative of the Crown. The present reigning family of England had come from that quarter; and hence, perhaps, the disposition they had evinced to assert their prerogative. He then alluded to the secrecy of diplomacy, which prevented the nation knowing who served them faithfully, and, in case of failure, who was wrong. He considered that there should be publicity, not only as regarded the instructions which public servants received, but as to the progress of their labours. The lecturer concluded by referring to the secret proposals which were made by the late Czar to Sir Hamilton Seymour, and to the convention between Great Britain and France respecting the Turkish loan, which was concluded before Parliament was consulted, as illustrations of the evils of secret diplomacy; remarking, respecting the former, that the concealing of that correspondence made us *particeps criminis* in the intention of the Czar, and the upshot of the matter was that we had to send 50,000 men to the Crimea, and £50,000,000 after them to bury them. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

MR. SHERIFF MECHE.

THIS intelligent gentleman, who fills, with credit to himself and advantage to the public, the high office of senior Sheriff of London and Middlesex, had hitherto been chiefly known for his successful experiments in agricultural chemistry at his model-farm, at Tiptree Heath, between Kelvedon and Maldon, in Essex. His name was also recently brought forward as a candidate for Maldon, but withdrawn, although his popularity in the neighbourhood promised him success; and Mr. Mechi's exertions during the recent election were restricted to his duties as one of the returning officers for the city of London and the county of Middlesex; and in both contests his arrangements for the accommodation of the public have received marked commendation.

Of the antecedents of Mr. Mechi the Recorder gave the following interesting *resumé* in presenting the new Sheriffs to the Barons of the Court of Exchequer, in September last:—

In the person of Mr. John Joseph Mechi, senior Sheriff, and citizen and limer, and who was connected with the eastern division of the metropolis, they had a gentleman of Italian extraction, but a man who was proud to be numbered among the merchants of the city of London. Although he had sprung from the Italian race, who were remarkable for their cultivation of the arts and sciences, he was proud, he repeated, to be enrolled among the merchants and men of business of this country. His father was born in Rome, but early in life he transferred the scene of his pursuits, and was for a long time employed in business in France; but, during the Reign of Terror, he, in common with many others, quitted it, and took refuge in this country. Here he subsequently attracted the attention of the Royal family, and was soon afterwards taken into the Royal household. His son, by early pursuits, in consequence of his great proficiency in the Italian language, was received into a house in the City; and his studies might offer an example to the young men of the present day, and prove to them the advantage of becoming early acquainted with the modern languages. He pursued his business for twenty-two years, when he was selected to preside over a large banking corporation, and he now stood on the footing of one of the first citizens of London. Besides his occupation in business, he devoted himself to the improvement of agriculture, on a limited estate, where once a year he invited men of talent and skill to witness the combined results of capital and science.

The Tiptree gatherings to which the Recorder here alludes have been year by year chronicled in our pages; and the Sheriff recently told the public that the farm originated in his success in business inducing him to invest money in attempting to improve the soil upon which he was born. He added, that fifteen years ago he considered the agriculture of the country to be unworthy of our national standing, and it was still the same. He could travel from John o' Groat's House to the Land's End and find tens of thousands of farms in as bad condition as was once his own farm at Tiptree, the improvement of which had proved a good investment.

The accompanying Portrait of the worthy Sheriff has been engraved from a Photograph by the Stereoscopic Company.



PLATE PRESENTED BY THE INHABITANTS OF CALCUTTA TO SIR ROWLAND MACDONALD STEPHENSON, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

THIS superb piece of table plate has just been presented by the inhabitants of Calcutta to Sir Rowland Macdonald Stephenson, the Managing Director of the East Indian Railway. The presentation took place just previous to this gentleman's return to England from Calcutta, and was accompanied by an address, acknowledging the ob-

ligations of the inhabitants for the very important services rendered to British India, but more especially to its metropolis.

From the year 1840," says the address, "you have worked with an untiring energy to obtain for this country the blessing of railway communication, and we, your friends, greatly rejoice that you have been enabled to see part of your well-considered and admirable project so successfully carried out. Without perseverance such as yours we should to the present day have been without a single mile of railway on this side of India. Led by your excellent example, the other Presidencies of India have taken up the scheme which you years ago predicted would be of such advantage to this country; and you have proved, contrary to the almost universal anticipation of the Indian public, that this mode of communication is not less adapted to the wants and habits of the natives of India than to those of the inhabitants of Europe."

The names attached to this document are—the Marquis of Dalhousie (the late Governor-General of India), the Deputy-Governor of Bengal, the Chief Justice, the Judges of the Supreme Court, the President of the Council, the members of the Council, the Sudder Court Judges, the Commander-in-Chief, the Government Secretaries, the principal members of the bar, all the mercantile houses, and a considerable number of private individuals, European and native.

The Plate consists of a magnificent candelabrum, valued at £250; and which, at the same time, is fitted for an épergne. The candelabrum (as may be seen from our Engraving) is fitted for three lights, and consists of a shaft of Indian shape and ornament, placed upon a triangular base, and bearing aloft the branches for the light. The form is extremely simple, the richness of effect being given by the ornament and the material. At each angle of the base are Indian figures: a Hindoo porter and girl with vase, agriculturists with their implements, and an English engineer directing a native workman in his operations. The figures have been modelled after nature, and are of frosted silver. At the immediate base of the shaft is a space containing the cipher of Sir Rowland Stephenson; and on the base itself are two bassi-relievi of Indian scenery; whilst the third entablature contains the dedicatory inscription.

This beautiful group has been

designed and executed by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, New Bond-street.

AMONGST the many busy manufacturing towns of Lancashire which

are making great efforts to improve their architectural appearance perhaps none are more remarkable than Blackburn. The corporation are widening, levelling, and draining the streets; handsome piles of shops and warehouses are springing up on every side; a large public park has been nearly completed; a handsome market-house and town-hall built; and baths and washhouses, and a first-class infirmary, are now proposed to be erected. The Townhall, of which we give a view, has been erected from the design of Mr. Patterson, a clever architect of Blackburn.

The style is Italian. The west, or entrance, front is 120 feet long and 62 feet high to the top of parapet. The outline is varied by the groups of chimneys which rise to the height of 71 feet. The other fronts are of a plainer character—that towards the market-place having



THE MIDDLESEX ELECTION.—MR. SHERIFF MECCHI, ONE OF THE RETURNING OFFICERS.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

a Doric portico over the magistrates' entrance-door. The police office and prison are at the east end of the buildings, the entrance to the prison-yard being under a rusticated gateway. On the ground-floor the vestibule is 49 feet 6 inches by 36 feet.

On the right is a news-room 51 feet by 37 feet; on the left, and occupying a corresponding space, are the council-room, 51 feet by 24 feet, and Town Clerk's office and muniment-room. Behind the vestibule, and separated from it by a corridor 9 feet wide, is the police court, 54 feet by 35 feet, and 26 feet high, lighted by a glass dome 12 feet in diameter. On one side of this court is the Mayor's parlour, 25 feet by 18 feet; a smaller police court, 36 feet by 24 feet; clerks' office, attorneys', and other rooms; and on the other side is the public entrance to the large court, and rooms for the clerks connected with the business of the court. On the east side are the police office and the prison, containing eighteen cells. The first floor is reached by two staircases, one from each end of the corridor behind the vestibule.



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A Tale for Little People.

CHAPTER I.



LAURA was very beautiful. She had been called so from the hour she was born. All who sought to win the favour of her wealthy mother were never tired of praising the blue eyes and rosy lips, the round arms and delicate fingers, of the baby beauty; but, though all were lavish of their admiration, Laura's mother thought they never praised enough, for the eyes of maternal pride could discover a thousand graces which were hidden from the cold scrutiny of fawning flatterers and interested dependents. As Laura grew in years, there were many cruel enough to tell her that her lovely face and graceful figure were alone sufficient to command the esteem and respect of all, and that she had only to consult her own desire in all things to be perfectly happy. The mother of Laura was equally to blame; for, instead of teaching her to consider the cultivation of her mind and the regulation of her disposition as the chief duties of her life, she was for ever employed in designing some new dress or ornament, which in reality served only to disguise the natural graces of the child, and had the effect of encouraging the growth of one of the most fatal passions—vanity. At fourteen Laura was frequently quite ridiculous; for she knew that she was much admired, and every day she became desirous of attracting more attention; and in order to do so she threw herself into unnatural attitudes, and made all kinds of simpering grimaces, which she foolishly thought graceful and becoming. Those who had flattered her began now to suffer the consequences of their own wickedness; for Laura, never having been taught that it is our duty to be kind and gentle to all our fellow-creatures, used her servants very harshly, and indulged in violent passions whenever they, through mistake or carelessness, gave her offence. Laura, though much attached to her mother, treated her with scarcely more consideration than she did her servants; for her wilfulness had obtained complete mastery over her affection. Bitterly indeed did the poor mother reproach herself; for too late she saw the mischief she had done, and the good which she had neglected.

A few weeks before Laura's fifteenth birthday her uncle, a merchant, returned from a long voyage in the Indian Seas. He was proud also of Laura's beauty, and had brought home some rich stuffs and valuable ornaments for his pretty niece, who kissed him a hundred times, and called him the best and dearest of uncles. Among other presents was one of a single pearl, and this, either from its rarity, or the interest she had felt in her uncle's narration of its capture by the pearl-diver, was an especial favourite with Laura. It came from the celebrated pearl fishery at Condalchy, on the coast of Ceylon, and the poor diver who brought it from the bottom of the sea died from the exertion used to obtain it. Laura would sit before her looking-glass an hour at a time, placing the pearl sometimes in her hair, or round her neck, or hanging the precious toy upon her lovely forehead. She had been thus engaged on a sultry afternoon until she grew weary of the pastime, and, throwing herself upon a sofa, took one of several beautiful shells which her uncle had brought also from the Indian Seas. She was still thinking of her pearl, which she intended to wear upon her approaching birthday, and wondering what everybody would say, when, unconsciously, she placed the Shell to her ear—and lo! there was a sound like the murmuring of the sea. This was the first time she had heard the sounds, though she remembered to have read a book of poetry where it was said of a shell—

Place its polished lips unto your ear,
And it remembers its august abodes,
And murmurs as the ocean murmurs there.

Laura was delighted with her discovery, and continued listening to the Shell, and thinking of her pearl, until she became unconscious of everything else around her. Presently she heard the Voice within the Shell speak her name. Yes! again it said "Laura!" She felt neither alarmed nor surprised, for she had listened to it so long that she had become familiar with the wonder.

"Well, pretty Shell," inquired Laura, "what do you want with me?" "Are you not pleased that I can talk to you?" said the Shell. "O! very pleased," replied Laura, "for I grow dreadfully weary of being alone so much, and the people about me never speak of anything but my beauty. I am tired of hearing them."

"Ha! Are you sure of that?" said the Shell; "you forget how often I have seen you before yonder looking-glass, and heard you say to yourself, 'Well, I certainly am very handsome.'"

"O! I never said that," exclaimed Laura.

"But you have often thought so," replied the Shell calmly, "and I have the power of hearing your thoughts."

"Indeed!" said Laura, a little frightened.

"You have often thought that for the world you would not have Caroline's merry pug nose, because some one has praised your own, which is straight; and that you would almost rather die than have Julia's gentle grey eyes, because your own are blue."

"Well, I own it," said Laura, in a very little pet; "I should hate to have a pug nose, and I'm very glad that my eyes are not grey. I can't help being beautiful, and I know I am."

"There is beauty in all things which God has made," replied the Shell.

"What! beauty in all things?" exclaimed Laura. "What! in spiders, and beetles, and—red hair?"

"Yes, in all, did you know how to seek for it," answered the Shell. "The time may come when you will do so. At present you are too much engaged with your own prettiness to see how others equal or excel you."

"Equal me! excel me!" thought Laura.

But the Spirit in the Shell heard her, and said, "You will not believe me now; you are too vain. You think that your beauty will command always the admiration of those you wish to captivate, and that the consciousness and exercise of that power will make you happy. Gentleness, affection, self-sacrifice, and kindness are unknown to you, because they have been unsought."

"You are very rude," said Laura. "Pray, do all shells talk, like you?" asked Laura.

"No; but I am endowed with this power to benefit you," said the Shell. "I am to tell you the 'Story of a Pearl,' the sister of the one you wear upon your wrist."

"Indeed!" cried Laura. "Had my lovely pearl a sister?"

"Listen," said the Shell.

THE STORY OF THE PEARL.

"The Pearl whose story I am about to narrate to you was of the ancient family of the Avicula Margahetta, one of the most renowned in the dominions of the Sea King. It had been predicted ages ago that the children of the Avicula should be very beautiful, and, as such, be liable to many dangers and temptations. The founder of the race was wise and prudent, and he therefore petitioned the King of the Sea to hide the exceeding beauty of his children under an exterior of the rudest form and most unattractive colour. Avicula was a great favourite with the Ruler of the Waters, and his petition

was instantly granted by his Royal master. The form which Avicula selected was that of an oyster."

"What!" exclaimed Laura, "was my lovely pearl ever an oyster?"

"Even so," continued the Shell; "and it is the same upon the earth as in the waters: a rude exterior oftentimes conceals the most precious qualities. For many years the Avicula lived in peace and honour in their rocky home under the sea which is called the Gulf of Manaar. One day a Cinghalese, who lived upon the Island of Lions, was displaying to his youthful bride, Otaly, his expertness as a diver in the same bright waters beneath which the Avicula had flourished so long; and to assure his companion, who sat upon the beach, that he had descended to the bottom of the sea, he brought up in his hand what he thought was a stone, and with a shout of triumph hurled his prize to the shore. And the hapless Avicula (for such it was) striking the sharp point of a rock was violently rent asunder."

"The diver stretched himself upon the bench nearly exhausted by his exertions, whilst Otaly proceeded to examine the novel thing which her husband had gathered from the sea. Struck with the beautiful colours of the opened shells, she scooped a hole in the sand, filling it with water, carefully washing away the particles in which the hitherto concealed pearl had been imbedded. She ran in ecstasy to her husband with the beautiful thing she had discovered, and clasped her hands with delight as she beheld the pleasure and wonder with which he regarded it."

"When they returned to the hut Otaly soon succeeded in fastening her sea gem (as she called it) to a fillet of red berries, which she bound upon her dark forehead, and then hastened to the bright stream in which she was accustomed to admire herself. Again and again she clasped her hands, for she had never seen anything so beautiful as the white pearl her husband had brought from beneath the great waters."

"The fatal gift of beauty to the Avicula was now discovered, and the evils which the founder of the family foresaw were about to visit them; for the fame of Otaly's new ornament had reached even the ears of the King, the great Hijaya. By his command fifty of the most expert divers were ordered to descend into the sea, and search for the rude shells which contained such treasures. From that time unto the present, thirty days in every year, the children of the earth make war upon the descendants of Avicula, and numbers are carried away from their home beneath the waters to become the slaves of human avarice and vanity."

"At the time of one of these incursions the sister of your favourite pearl was seven years old, being the age at which the daughters of the Avicula Margahetta arrive at maturity. She was known to be very beautiful, and she herself was aware of her own claims to admiration; and so constantly did this knowledge occupy her thoughts that she grew dissatisfied with the seclusion in which she lived, and longed to be taken from her quiet home beneath the waters to the world of earth, where so many of her ancestors had been carried by the pearl-divers. She knew not what her lot would be in the new world which she desired to visit, but she felt sure that some great distinction awaited her, for those who sought with such labour to obtain her kindred must set a high value upon one so beautiful as she was."

"For twenty days the divers had ravaged the country of the Avicula, and had carried off numbers of the inhabitants; but she, who desired so much to become a captive, had hitherto escaped. She was lamenting what she considered her hard fate, when she felt herself torn from her native rock, and was sensible that she was being borne towards the surface of the sea. O how happy she thought herself in the fulfilment of her wishes! In her joy she forgot all those she had ever known or loved, and though she was but a few minutes on her passage from the bottom of the sea to the upper air she grew impatient at the delay. At length she was drawn from the water. In a moment she was oppressed by a feeling of suffocation, which was only increased when she was tumbled with a dozen others into the bottom of a boat. What would she have given for a draught of the pleasant sea which she had so lately left, the sea which she had so lately despised, and whose soothing murmurs she was never to hear again—never!"

The Shell paused for a moment, and Laura heard it sigh deeply. Poor Shell! The sea had been its birthplace, and it knew that it should never see it more. After a pause the Shell continued—

"The boat into which the unhappy Avicula was thrown contained twenty men, besides a tindal or pilot. Ten of the men were rowers and ten were divers. Of these latter, five had just been drawn up from the sea, each laden with his captives. The same number were preparing to go down as soon as the large stones of red granite which had aided their fellows to descend should be hauled up by the ropes, to which they were attached. This was soon done, and each of the fresh divers holding a net between the toes of his left foot, and the rope, to which the stone is fastened by the toes of his right foot, plunged into the sea. In about two minutes a signal was given to the men in the boat, that the purpose of the divers was accomplished, and they were drawn up again, as their fellows had been before them, their nets filled with the spoils of the deep waters. It was now noon, and a breeze blowing across the sea warned the fishers to return. Presently a noise like thunder came booming over the waters. It was the gun which told the return of the boat to land. Upon the shore were numberless rude huts and tents, with each a bazaar, or shop, before it, surrounded by thousands of people of different colours, countries, castes, and occupations. The sea was covered by a multitude of boats, all returning from the same pursuit as that which contained the poor Pearl. As they severally touched the shore their anxious owners ran to meet them, and hailed with loud acclamations the number of captives with which each was laden. The unhappy Avicula were thrown roughly into baskets, and carried away to holes or pits dug in the ground, and there placed upon coarse mats; alas! to linger and to die. Then, how the vain Pearl lamented her folly, and thought more and more lovingly of her home beneath the waters. She now only desired to die in peace."

"But this was not to be. The moon arose, and again the gun was heard booming over the sea. The breeze was blowing gently from the land, and the whole fleet of boats and their crews of divers and rowers put off to renew their ravages in the deep. But the poor Avicula was past all physical pain; yet the power to feel and to remember was strangely preserved to her, for what purpose you will learn as I proceed with her story."

"After a short lapse of time the Avicula were taken from the pits in which they had been buried, and carefully examined by their captors, to discover their value. The Pearl whose story I am narrating far exceeded in beauty all others which the fishers had obtained, and a hundred merchants contended for the possession of her. For days she was exhibited by her master, who seemed never to tire of praising her form and colour, until she almost forgot her past sufferings in the admiration which she excited. At length a merchant was found to give the large sum required for her purchase; and by her new possessor the Pearl was carried to England, and confided to the care of a skilful artisan, who made for her a delicate framework of gold, attached to a chain of the same precious metal. When the Pearl found herself thus arrayed, all her former pride returned, and she no longer regretted her rocky home beneath the sea."

"The merchant himself was childless, but he had a niece he loved very dearly, named Adeleve; and it was for her that he had bought the Pearl, and had it placed in its costly setting. Adeleve was very beautiful; and, like the vain Avicula, she knew it, and was satisfied to be only beautiful. You can judge how proud she was of her uncle's gift, and what use she made of it. Adeleve had an idol."

"What! an idol like the ugly Joss in the drawing-room?" said Laura. "Do not interrupt me," continued the Shell. "This idol was inclosed in a shrine, which was made of the clearest crystal, and a glittering substance resembling the purest silver. But, although the shrine was very curious, the idol was still more wonderful, for its features, which were remarkably beautiful, would change their expression twenty times a day, and yet always bore a strong resemblance to those of Adeleve. In fact, it was almost like herself."

"Adeleve was never so happy as when she was decorating this image, either with flowers, or gems, or golden ornaments; and as soon as she received her uncle's costly gift she hastened to the shrine, and hung the pearl upon the forehead of her idol. The figure smiled, while an expression of great delight beamed from its eyes, and Adeleve thought it had never looked so beautiful. Hour by hour would she stand and gaze upon the object of her adoration, neglecting for its worship her studies and her duties."

"It was not always that the idol smiled; for, at times when Adeleve had been using violent words and indulging in angry passions, it

would assume a strange forbidding look which was perfectly frightful, and Adeleve would turn away from it, and weep with vexation. These angry moods were of such constant occurrence that it was wonderful that the idol preserved its beauty, or that Adeleve retained a servant to wait upon her; and it was only by large bribes that the dependents of her mother consented to submit to the treatment which they received. Even the Pearl, though proud of being the slave of such a lovely mistress, was often ashamed of the scenes of violence and waywardness which it was compelled to witness."

"Adeleve had but one friend, her cousin, Mary Merton; for her early playmates had grown tired of her caprices, and annoyed by her passionate disposition; but Mary Merton bore patiently with her cousin's ill humours, and only remembered her acts of kindness towards her; though she, from her gentleness, was more exposed than any one else to be treated slightly by the young beauty. Mary was a year older than Adeleve, and could lay no claims to any personal attractions. Her features were irregular, and her eyes of no decided colour; but there was ever an expression of gentleness and good nature in her face, which more than made amends for the absence of beauty. She was always dressed very plainly, and seldom wore any other ornament than a flower or a bow of gay-coloured ribbon, thus presenting a marked contrast to her more wealthy and beautiful cousin; but her mind and disposition had been carefully trained, and all who knew Mary Merton loved her. Even Adeleve did so, as much as her own self-love would allow her to esteem another; but she never failed in her own mind to draw unfavourable comparisons between her own personal advantages and the plainness of Mary. Then Adeleve would wonder that her cousin should be always happy and contented, when even she, whom every one praised and admired, was so frequently annoyed and dissatisfied. As she had never been taught to consider the feelings of others when she desired her own gratification, she one day asked Mary if she did not wish that she were beautiful?"

"Not I," replied Mary, laughing merrily; "for not even Fortunatus's wishing-cap would make me so. Mamma would have nothing to tease me about if I had not a pug nose, and we often laugh heartily because papa will not admit that it is like his own. Many and many a kiss has my poor little pug gained for me because it has been made a jest of."

"Adeleve thought these were strange reasons to make any one satisfied with a pug nose. She wondered what could reconcile her to her straight flaxen hair."

"But surely you would like hair that would curl, Mary?" asked the beauty.

"Well, if it would always curl," replied her merry cousin; "but you know I like to have the wind blowing about my temples when I am gathering wild flowers in the fields; or when my good spirits run away with me, how sadly I am disposed to be a romp. My straight hair never gives me any trouble then; and I often hear merry-hearted girls like myself confess that they would gladly do as I do but for fear of disturbing their ringlets. No, Adeleve; I am quite contented to have straight hair, since it allows me to enjoy the good spirits with which God has blessed me."

"Adeleve pitied her poor cousin; thinking, in her own ignorance, how much she had to regret. It was with this conviction that, one day when they were together in her dressing-room, Adeleve proposed to her cousin to accept one of the beautiful dresses which her uncle, the merchant, had given to her."

"You are very kind, dear Adeleve," said Mary; "but I cannot accept your pretty dress. It is quite suited to you; but this muslin frock, with its bright cherry-coloured bows, is more fitted to me and to my station. You forget that papa is not so rich as your mamma."

"What has that to do with it?" asked Adeleve, a little angry at the rejection of her offer. "What has that to do with it?"

"Much, my dear cousin," replied Mary, with a smile; "much more than you may think. I should be obliged to tell everybody this dress is a present from my cousin Adeleve, or papa would be thought to be extravagant and foolish to buy me such an expensive material. Besides, I have sisters."

"Surely they would not be censured for your appearance," said Adeleve.

"No, dear cousin," replied Mary; "but it would be wrong of me to incur the chance of giving them pain; and I might do so by appearing so much more splendidly dressed than themselves."

"Well, they might be annoyed, for what I should care," said Adeleve; "I wouldn't dress myself a fright to please anybody."

"I hope I am not quite a fright," replied Mary, with a laugh; "and I deny myself nothing in refusing what you so kindly offer; yet I would do much to please you."

"Well, you do that, I must acknowledge," said Adeleve; "and why, I am at a loss to discover."

"Because there is a great pleasure in pleasing others," replied Mary.

"What! when it is to your own inconvenience?" exclaimed Adeleve.

"Yes, my dear cousin," answered Mary. "The little sacrifice we make increases the pleasure of doing a service; and without some self-denial we deserve no thanks, although we may receive them."

"No thanks would pay me for a personal inconvenience," said Adeleve; "I mean to consult my own pleasure in all things—let others do as they please."

"You must not do so if you wish to be happy," replied Mary. "We are all dependent upon each other, dear cousin, from the highest to the lowest. It is our interest as well as our duty to remember this. The love and kind office of others are necessary to our own happiness; and, therefore, we should be always gentle, loving, and ready to do good."

"What a capital parson you would make, to be sure!" said Adeleve, evidently displeased.

"I only repeat what mamma has told me," answered Mary; "I am sure you would be happier if you thought so too, Adeleve."

"I am quite happy, thank you," answered the beauty, tossing her pretty head; "and I think you had better go down to the drawing-room whilst I am dressed, for I should not like my maid to hear such very strange ideas."

Mary left the room, and Adeleve sat herself down before the shrine which held her idol. The face of the image looked angry and perplexed; and the Pearl was very sorrowful, for she remembered the time when she had forgotten all she had loved and known in her selfish joy at being taken from her home beneath the waters."

CHAPTER II.



The Shell paused, for whenever it spoke of the sea its voice was mournful, and sounded like the moaning of the waves after a storm had vexed them. In a few moments it continued—

"Adeleve was now twenty-one. She had passed the last three years in the pursuit of pleasure, and a more fervent devotion to her idol. Her beauty had gained her many admirers, but the Pearl (who, like myself, had the power of understanding human thoughts) had seen how her vanity and frivolity had made her an object of ridicule. She was, however, about to be married to one as vain and frivolous as herself, and whom she only valued for his wealth and position in society. She thought that his riches would give her more opportunities for display, and that she would be envied for the grandeur of

her house and the splendour of her equipages. She knew that he was proud of her beauty, and would deny her nothing that could set it off to the greatest advantage; and for this she had consented to pass her life as the companion of a foolish coxcomb.

"Her wedding was to be the grandest of the season, and numbers were invited to see how splendidly she was to be attired, and how beautiful she would look. Her cousin had been married, a year before, to the curate (whose name was Merton also) of a small parish in the country, and it was with some difficulty that Adeleve could be persuaded by her mother to invite Mary to be present at her marriage, fearing that the simplicity of her early friend and her husband might detract from the splendour of the scene. It was well for Adeleve that she did so.

"The church was crowded with persons to witness the ceremony, and not a few gratified the vanity of Adeleve by their exclamations at the beauty both of her person and her bridal dress. "Her happiness, however, was to experience some alloy (as even at the altar her vanity had sought to gratify itself); for the church dignitary who was to have read the marriage service was taken suddenly ill, and the poor country curate, Mary's husband, had to officiate in his stead.

"The wedding party returned from the church to a sumptuous breakfast, at which were present a hundred people who cared nothing for Adeleve, and for whom she cared as little. The only persons, besides her mother, who felt any concern for the future welfare of the bride were Mary and her husband. But Adeleve treated them with marked neglect, as though she were ashamed to own relationship with two such homely people; but they felt no resentment at such conduct, for their own goodness made them ready to excuse any forgetfulness of themselves; and they returned to their own quiet village without envy of the splendour they had seen, or anger at the vain and selfish girl who had forgotten what was due to the only friend of her wayward youth.

"The Pearl, too, had received her meed of praise on that day, for she had heard the thoughts of many upon her beauty; and, in her gratitude to the mistress who had obtained for her such an opportunity to be admired, she heeded not the selfishness and vanity which she saw in the mind of Adeleve. She felt how ashamed she should have been had an unsightly oyster claimed kindred with her, when a hundred tongues were lavish in the praises of her loveliness. Poor silly Pearl! She knew not what was in store for her.

"And Adeleve's image seemed in its crystal shrine as though it could never again own a vexed or angry look. Alas, it was a deceitful idol!

"Time passed on, and with it Adeleve's wedded life. Her home had no charms for her, except when it afforded her the opportunities of displaying her wealth and beauty before people whom she thought envied and admired her. As she grew older she became more greedy of flattery, and those interested in pleasing her paid her the most fulsome compliments, which her vanity made her believe were the honest expressions of their thoughts. When there were none to flatter she was petulant with all about her; and, as her husband was very frequently exposed to her bad temper, she soon grew distasteful to him, and he avoided her society as much as possible. For this she cared but little, as he had long ceased to administer to her vanity, excepting by allowing her the means to dress extravagantly, and give grand entertainments. When she was not employed with these frivolities she was very miserable, for she had not provided her mind with any other resources of pleasure, or cultivated her disposition to find delight in acts of kindness and benevolence, whereby her leisure and her wealth might have been made blessings to herself and others. She felt that no one really loved her; for, as she had lived for herself alone, all her friends repaid her selfishness and indifference. When this feeling was strongest in her mind she would sometimes weep very bitterly, not with sorrow at her past folly in neglecting the opportunities she had had, but with vexation at her want of influence over others. At those times she seldom visited her idol, but when she did so she saw the image with red and swollen eyes, and its dark eyebrows contracted together, making its pallid cheeks look more sorrowful. Then would she turn away from it in haste, and laugh disdainfully, as though she sought to deceive herself into the belief that her annoyance was not real. The poor Pearl, who knew the truth, was now doomed to suffer greatly; for, though she did not love her mistress, she could not witness these exhibitions of human weakness without a desire to escape from them, and she often sighed, how vainly! for her peaceful home beneath the deep waters.

Again the Shell paused, for it was thinking of the sea which it loved so well.

"Adeleve had been married about four years when two events occurred which materially affected her. One was nothing less than the appearance of a new beauty, called Laura."

"My name!" cried the listening girl.

"There are many so called," continued the Shell. "The Laura of whom I speak was not only as lovely as Adeleve, but she was some years her junior. Her beauty, however, was her least claim to admiration."

"Her least claim!" exclaimed the surprised listener.

"At present you will not believe me," said the Shell; "nevertheless, I speak truly when I say that her beauty was her least claim to the admiration of those who knew her. She had been trained by good and wise parents who had sought to store her mind with the knowledge of good and truth—and well had she repaid their care. Gentle to all, she was obeyed with an alacrity that proved it was a pleasure to consult the least of her wishes. Mindful of the duty she owed to those beneath her, the poor had reason hourly to bless her care of them. Grateful for the love which was shown towards her, she sought to evince her own affectionate regard for all those who were worthy of esteem. No selfish thought occupied her mind; but her greatest pleasure was in consulting the happiness of others. Richly was she rewarded; for, though she sometimes met with an ill return, she knew from many kindly acts how much others sought to show their gratitude. She had read much, and was thus enabled to converse on subjects of which Adeleve knew nothing. She was also a proficient in minor accomplishments, and sang well but naturally, and played with taste and feeling. Against such a rival Adeleve's claims to admiration were small indeed, and great was her mortification when she found herself deserted for the new beauty.

"The wicked thoughts which filled the mind of Adeleve made the Pearl tremble as she hung around the neck of her enraged mistress, and gladly would she have been the unregarded pebble upon the shore of Manaar.

"When Adeleve returned home she flew to her idol for comfort in her distress; for she believed that so long as that continued beautiful she herself should command the admiration which she coveted. The image was ghastly pale, and looked more angry than ever she had beheld it. Its eyes seemed like sparks of fire, and its features were painfully rigid. Adeleve turned away in terror, and, leaning her arms upon the marble slab above the fireplace, she hid her face in her hands. In a moment her dress was in flames. The light gauze had been drawn into the fire; but Adeleve was unconscious of her danger till aroused by a sense of pain. Her cries brought assistance, but not until the fire had injured her severely. For many days her recovery was doubtful, and fever rendered her insensible. There was one who watched her day and night, and bore patiently the restlessness of the sufferer, and seemed never to tire of her painful office. That one was Mary. As soon as she heard of the accident to Adeleve she came to her instantly, for she judged rightly that her cousin would have no attendant but hired nurses. How could it be otherwise?—she never sought the good will of any, and she had made her dependants fear her. Though money could procure the services of many, the untiring care of one who loved her could not be purchased. Therefore Mary came to be her nurse. It was many weeks before Adeleve could leave her bed, and for the first time in her life she knew the feeling of gratitude. Again and again she thanked Mary for her care and tenderness, without which she felt she never should have recovered. She remembered that Mary had said to her years before, 'We are all dependent upon each other.' Nor could she forget how she had scoffed at the saying.

"When Mary returned to her home Adeleve felt a loneliness she had never known before, for no one came to fill her cousin's place. No! She had but one friend, and she was gone.

"As strength returned Adeleve's old vanity came back also. The shrine which contained her idol had been removed from her chamber, as the surgeon, knowing the influence it had over her, had feared the effect it might produce. She now desired that the shrine should be

restored to its place, and as her attendants did not care to dispute her orders her command was obeyed. When she was left alone she anxiously approached the object which contained her idol. She looked, and faintly instantly, for the image had a bright red scar upon its cheek, and she knew that she resembled it. When consciousness returned her rage was fearful. Instead of thanking the Goodness which had preserved her life she upbraided all who had ministered to her recovery, accusing them as the authors of her misfortune. Wretched Adeleve! the beauty for which she had sacrificed so much was hers no longer."

CHAPTER III.



"We will talk no more at present of Adeleve," said the Shell, "as I have much to tell you of Mary Merton."

"The village where she lived was in a secluded part of the country. The old grey church and modest parsonage stood upon the brow of a hill, from which you might see large tracts of meadow land, spotted over with cattle of various kinds, and here and there patches of cornfields. A bright river ran like a band of silver through the vale, turning in its course a couple of water-mills, whose noise was pleasant to hear, as it told of human life and industry. In the distance was a large wood, which stretching right and left seemed to shut out the rest of the world from this pleasant valley. The village itself was composed almost entirely of cottages, the female inhabitants of which gained a living by making pillow-lace. It was a pretty sight to see the cottagers—some very young, some very old—seated at the doors of their humble homes, each with a round pillow in her lap, throwing about the bobbins, which rattled merrily under the busy fingers of the workers. Twice a week in the summer time they would assemble in the parsonage-orchard, and form a circle round Mrs. Merton, who read to them whilst they pursued their labour. In the winter time they all met in the school-room, on half-holidays, for the same purpose, and thus there grew up between the parson's wife and the parishioners a regard and love for each other that produced the happiest results. Mrs. Merton used her influence over her poorer friends to make them cleanly and provident housewives, whilst she derived a great amount of happiness from the affectionate regard which all professed for her.

"Soon after Mrs. Merton came to live at Cherryvale, one of the cottagers brought from the neighbouring market-town where she had been to sell her lace, two very young children, of whom she had undertaken the care. The eldest, a boy, was named Edward, and the other was called Rose. They had lost both father and mother six months before, and their grandfather, being a commercial traveller, and much away from home, had thought it better to send the children into the country, as their health was very delicate. Mrs. Morley, to whose charge they were confided, was a well-meaning woman enough, but, being very ignorant of everything except making lace, to which employment she devoted all the time she could spare from her household duties, little Edward and Rose were left very much to take care of themselves. They were so attached to each other that if they were separated for a few minutes their anxiety was instantly perceptible. If the day were fine, as soon as they had finished their breakfast of bread and milk, they would take each other's hands and walk away to some quiet hedge-bank or corner of a field, and, making themselves toys of broken crockery or wild-flowers, amuse each other for hours. Sometimes they would stroll down the green lanes—but ever hand-in-hand—watching with childish wonder the birds flying from hedge to hedge; or Edward would gather twigs of May-blossom or blackberries for himself and Rose—for what one had the other must share always. They seldom played with the children in the village, and when they did so Rose and Edward would be sure to sit beside each other, and very soon become silent spectators of the sport, whatever it might be. Not that they were sulky or ill-tempered children, but they seemed to be of such timid natures that they were happiest when alone. They never laughed as merry children laugh; but they would often look at each other, and smile, and were very happy in their quiet, gentle way. It was impossible for them to escape the notice of Mrs. Merton, who endeavoured to form an intimacy with the two orphans; but, kind as she ever was, and a general favourite with little people, it was some time before she could overcome the shyness of Rose and Edward.

"Do you not like me?" said Mrs. Merton, after trying in vain to make the children cheerful.

"O yes," replied Edward. "You talk to us as mamma used to do."

"And you loved your mamma?" said Mrs. Merton.

"The children looked at each other; and then, speaking together, said, 'Yes! yes! very much.'

"And is that why you are not merrier?" asked Mrs. Merton.

"I don't know," answered the boy; "but mamma was ill so long; and we were left alone so long; and nurse always told us to be very quiet"—and again he looked in his little sister's face for a moment, and then kissed her.

"Ah! dear ones; you who have happy homes, without one absent face! be good and grateful, and believe in the love which seeks to guide you!"

"Mrs. Merton now understood why the children were so fond of solitude and being always together, and endeavoured more and more to make them love her. It is seldom that kindness and gentleness fail to make an impression on the young; and very soon Edward and Rose came to the parsonage every day; and, though they loved each other as much as ever, seemed happier when Mrs. Merton was with them. When they were quite at their ease with her Mrs. Merton taught them to read and write, and both Edward and Rose proved apt scholars and progressed very rapidly. Mr. Merton also took great interest in them; and, as he had no children of his own, proposed that they should live entirely at the parsonage. Their grandfather readily gave his consent, and for some years Edward and Rose lived very happily with their kind friends, repaying the care bestowed upon them by affection and diligence. At the end of this time Mrs. Merton had a severe illness. For some days it was thought that she would not recover, and when she did so it was only partially, for she could no longer walk about, but was obliged to be drawn in a garden-chair, propped up by pillows. Edward would let no one perform this duty but himself, and Rose never left the poor invalid except when rest was absolutely needful for her.

"It was at this period that Adeleve, neglected and forgotten by all her former admirers and acquaintances (for she was without true friends), thought often of the kindness of her cousin Mary, and resolved to visit Cherryvale, in order to be near the only one upon whose attentions she could rely. It was not that her misfortune had alienated those whom she used to call her friends; but, finding that she no longer attracted admiration, she had become more overbearing and captious in her manners and conduct, until every one avoided her. Her time was chiefly employed about her idol, upon which she bestowed increased attention—dressing it in the richest materials, and employing every art to hide the scar upon its forehead and the seams upon its face, occasionally believing that she had concealed its blemishes, but learning, often very painfully, that she had deceived herself. Her anger would then return and render her so ridiculous that

those who once were disposed to pity her regarded her with contempt.

"The poor Pearl knew all this too well, and lamented that its own beauty should have made it a witness of her humiliation.

"When Adeleve arrived at Cherryvale she was grieved to see the change which illness had made in Mary Merton; but, feeble and suffering as she found her cousin, Mary's kindness and gentleness were unchanged.

"You are very welcome, dear Adeleve," said she, "though I am afraid you will find me a wearisome companion after the gay friends you have left behind you."

"I have no friends," replied Adeleve. "I do not believe in friendship."

"You must be sceptical no longer, Adeleve," said Mary, "for here are two who daily prove to me that there are true friends to be found by those who have sought them. You must know these, my friends, Rose and Edward."

"Adeleve looked at the two persons referred to, and then, turning to Mary, said, 'Are these your only friends?'

"I think not, dear Adeleve," replied Mary; "I hope, I know, I have many more. But, for a long time, Edward and Rose have been my constant attendants. Unwearied by my restlessness when in pain, watchful of every want—and those who are sick have many—denying themselves every enjoyment but that which they derive from their affectionate care of me. Are not those friends?'

"Indeed, they are!" said Adeleve. "But you were always fortunate; I had never any one to care for me. Once, indeed, I had many to flatter me and profess an admiration which they could not have felt, or I should not be abandoned by all, as I am now."

"Not by all, dear Adeleve," said Mary, and she held out her thin white hand.

"Well, not by you," replied Adeleve, "or I should not have sought you. But even you I find ill and in more need of consolation than in a condition to bestow it upon me."

"I think not, Adeleve," said Mary. "True I am sorely afflicted, but I am resigned to bear my affliction. I remember how much happiness I have enjoyed, and how little I deserved it. I feel, too, that the trifling good which I have sown has produced a most abundant harvest in the affection which now seeks to soothe my suffering."

"Did I not say you were fortunate?" exclaimed Adeleve. "Where are those whom I have feasted and entertained? The dependants whom I have fed and rewarded? All, all have deserted me."

"Are they alone to blame?" But Mary could not tell her unhappy cousin that she had consulted only her own selfish enjoyment in all which she done, and that those of whom she complained had understood her motive.

"I know what you would say," replied Adeleve, colouring deeply—"that I have lived for myself alone. I remember well the sermon you once preached to me—that we are all dependent upon others. But I have no right to be dependent. I have wealth, I had beauty, but now what am I? But for that dreadful accident I should have been admired and followed still."

"Ah, dear cousin," said Mary, "our chastenings are for our good if we could only understand them so. Your beauty was a fatal gift to you, and you have lost it that you may gain a better nature."

"I have lost it to be made miserable," exclaimed Adeleve; "and I would that I were dead."

"If that wish were sincere it would be impious," said Mary. "I do not desire to die although my life is of hourly suffering, for I have still duties which I can perform. But you have health to enjoy the world of beauty which is around you, wealth to assist the needy—not by the careless giving of alms, but by encouraging the deserving, by lending succour to the sick and aged, whose labour is done, and who now ask for a little rest before they die; to seek out the ignorant and teach them good and truth, and thus win friends whose testimony will outlive the grave."

Rose, who was sitting by the side of the couch, took Mrs. Merton's hand and laid her cheek upon it. The invalid looked at Adeleve and smiled, as though to call her attention to this simple evidence of the affection of the child. Adeleve observed it without any emotion, but the time came when she remembered it.

As Mrs. Merton became daily more infirm her cousin found her visit very irksome to herself, and soon made an excuse to leave Cherryvale. She never spoke to Mary again, for a few weeks after her departure Mrs. Merton died. There were many mourners in Cherryvale, for Mary's goodness had won for her the love of all.

"O yes, I love her," said Laura, when the Shell ceased to speak. Poor Edward and Rose, what became of them?"

"They remembered the example of the one they loved, and lived to imitate her virtues," answered the Shell. "But we must follow Adeleve."

"I don't care what becomes of her," said Laura; "a vain, selfish creature."

"Yet her story, I hope, may be of use to you," replied the Shell. "Listen a little longer."

"Adeleve had taken more than ordinary pains to dress herself, and was lost in contemplation of her beloved idol when the letter announcing Mary's death was put into her hands by her servant. She paused a moment before breaking the black seal, for she anticipated the news contained in the letter. When she heard how peacefully Mary had died—how she had remembered Adeleve in almost her latest prayer—and how the grief of those to whom she had been so dear was tempered by the belief that she was now beyond the chance of change or sorrow—Adeleve was deeply touched, and, for the first time for many years, she wept tears of earnest, unselfish grief.

[And! her idol was weeping also!] As she looked steadfastly upon it—thinking how she should die—how she should be mourned and remembered—a mist overspread the shrine, and she saw (or fancied that she saw) the face of her idol change to that of Mary. Pale and transparent as the purest alabaster the face appeared, and wore an expression of such heavenly peacefulness that Adeleve thought she looked upon a sleeping angel. Gradually it passed away, and the scared and painted features of the idol were again before her. O, how hideous it now appeared! How ghastly the living image compared with the shadow of the dead!

Adeleve rose up and hastily removed her dress and ornaments, casting them heedlessly on the floor, as though they hurt her body. The Pearl rested upon her forehead, but even that was taken off and thrown carelessly away, and, as it fell, the fire received it!

"The cruel fire (and the Shell trembled in the hand of Laura), the enemy of all things that dwell beneath the sea, closed round the poor Avicula and calcined her to dust."

The Voice in the Shell was silenced; and Laura thought she heard a deep sigh, like the sound the sea makes upon the beach when the waves are quiet, and mourning for the wrongs which they have done to brave ships and their drowned crews.

"And Adeleve?" asked Laura, after a short pause.

"She sought and found a better nature; and lived to believe the sermon Mary once preached to her," answered the Shell.

"And the shrine, and the idol? What became of them?" said Laura.

"The shrine was her Looking-glass, and her idol was herself—only herself," replied the Shell. "Like you, she was very beautiful; like you."

"O do not say that I am like Adeleve, dear Shell! Do not say that! Let me be like the Laura of whom you spoke! Whenever you see me growing vain and selfish, and careless of my duties to others, murmur in my ear, 'Remember Adeleve! Remember Laura!'

"That must not be," said the Shell; "I have spoken for the last time. It has been permitted me to tell you the story of the Pearl: it is for you to remember."

"And I will," cried Laura. "I will, dear Shell. O, how can I thank you enough?"

"Would you, then, do even me a kindness?" asked the Shell.

"Yes, yes!" exclaimed Laura. "Anything you require of me I will do."

"Then return me to the sea—anywhere in the sea—so that I may rest again in the cool, green waves of my beloved ocean," exclaimed the Shell.

"I promise that you shall," said Laura—"soon, very soon."

And, in a voice as musical as the rippling of a little brook, the Shell murmured "Remember!"

MARK LEMON.

REPORT ON FIRE INSURANCE DUTIES.

This is one of the ablest Parliamentary papers we have ever perused; drawn up by Mr. George Coode, and addressed to the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The statistical information it contains, and the logic applied to facts and figures, are highly instructive. Its publication is opportune, for the reduction of the duty on fire insurance has been as strongly urged on the Government as the remission of the customs on wine and the excise on paper; but whoever reads this Report with an unprejudiced mind will arrive at the conclusion that the duty on fire insurance ought to be retained, as productive of increasing revenue with a pressure on individuals scarcely appreciable. We are aware that this is not a popular opinion, and, as it is desirable that all prevalent errors should be removed, we propose to enter fully into the subject.

The first duty on fire insurance was imposed in 1694, by the 5th of William and Mary, in these words:—"For every piece of vellum or parchment, or sheet of paper, upon which any policy of assurance shall be engrossed or written, the sum of sixpence." This rate applied to all policies, whatever the amount of property insured under them. Many variations took place between 1694 and 1815, which need not here be particularised; but, at the latter date, "the percentage duty was raised to 3s. per £100, at which rate it has remained ever since, while the Stamp-duty on the policy has remained unchanged at 1s. ever since 1804." In 1833 agricultural produce and farming stock were exempted entirely from both those duties, in consequence of the repeated crime of arson perpetrated in rural districts known as the "Swing Riots," which compelled the insurance offices to treble or quadruple the premiums, and in many cases induced them to decline all policies.

Where the offices charge 1s. 6d. the Government duty is 3s., so that the tax amounts to 200 per cent; but this is more apparent than real on a full view of the whole subject. It is to be observed that the duty is uniform on all policies; but the rate is variable, being dependent on the hazard run. Some years since the charge on warehouses and their contents in Liverpool was 30s. per £100. Owing to improved modes of construction, it has been reduced to 12s. per £100 on buildings of brick or stone, covered with tiles or slates, "which is only reducible to 6s. on a certificate of special improvements in construction." The charge on fireproof warehouses is 3s. 6d. per £100. Where the offices consider that special risk is incurred they charge three guineas; and for theatres that are accepted, which seems to be rare, five guineas per £100. Although agricultural produce, farmers' stock, implements, and utensils, are exempt from duty, the rate is 4s. per £100. The rate of 1s. 6d. only applies to ordinary risk, so that it is not true, as a universal proposition, that the Government duty is equal to a tax of 200 per cent on the charge made by the insurance offices. Thus on agricultural stock, were it subject to the duty, it would only be 75 per cent on the premium; and at the present ordinary premium on Liverpool warehouses at 12s. the duty is only 25 per cent. After much research into minute details, Mr. Coode considers that, on the whole, the duty is 100, and not 200, per cent on the premium of insurance.

It is ascertained that the risk by fire is in the proportion of 1 to 6000, and that the insurable value of the contents of dwelling-houses may average, one with the other, a mean between four and five times the rental. In six-roomed houses, where the rents range from £30 to £40, the property they contain is computed at from three to five times the rent; in ten-roomed houses, rented at from £50 to £60, the ratio is commonly in a somewhat less scale; and in first classes the rule, on the whole, is about the same, though some contain objects of very considerable value, but the estimate is framed on a general average. It also appears from these inquiries that the practice of insuring from one-third to two-thirds of the appraised value effectually covers the losses incurred. On this scale Mr. Coode shows that the tax of 3s. per £100 really presses on the insurer with only feather weight compared with the security he obtains. He reasons thus:—

If an insurance be effected on two-thirds of the value of the property, the tax of 3s. on the £100 insured is one farthing in the pound sterling of the value of the property; or, more exactly, as 1 duty to value of property 1000. When the insurance is effected on one-half of the value, the duty is one-sixth of a penny in the pound on the property, or as duty 1 to value of property 1533. When it is effected at one-third, the duty is one-ninth of a penny in the pound, or as duty 1 to value of property 2000.

In 1856 the total value of property insured was £861,859,976, of which £802,574,000 was liable to duty, while £59,285,976 was exempt. The revenue derived from the tax was £1,203,861; and it is well to observe that at the present time, judging by the results of the last five years, the rate of progress is at an average annual increase of 18 2-5th millions. On these facts, as a basis of reasoning, it may be asked, does the tax of 3s. per £100 limit insurance? And if it were reduced, would the Government receive an equal amount of revenue on a larger sum from a lowered scale of percentage?

In considering the former of these two questions, we must avoid the common error of concluding that all the property of the country is insurable against fire; and we should also remember that there are no reliable statistics by which we can determine the real aggregate of national wealth. True, it has been estimated—but with more looseness than accuracy. In the first place, then, the National Debt is not insurable, which may be put down in round numbers at £800,000,000; nor are canals and railways, though they may figure 'for at least half that sum. We must also exclude land—its surface, and the metals and minerals in its interior—which, at thirty-three years' purchase, represents a capital of £1,550,000,000 of property; and it must be borne in mind that shipping is specially covered by marine insurance. The indestructible part of buildings must also be omitted; for the site is not affected by fire, though, in some situations, it is even of more value than the edifice constructed on it; as in the heart of the city of London and of the great provincial towns. In the aggregate, these make most serious deductions from the total of insurable national wealth.

Mr. Coode takes, as a guide, the assessment to the Property-tax of all houses in England and Wales, and puts down their insurable value at ten years of rack rental, estimated in 1855, which gives a sum of £436,290,790; or, if the rack rental be computed at fifteen years, then the insurable value would be £654,000,000; and to this Mr. Coode adds £220,000,000 for insurable household stuffs and stock in trade; making in the whole £874,000,000. But we have seen that the insurance of 1856 amounted to £802,574,000; so that the margin of increase is small, even if the duty were wholly remitted. The amount here assumed gives to each man, woman, and child a combustible value of £46 per head—a very liberal percentage, and most probably in excess of the facts. As the result of his own inquiries Mr. Coode says:—"We have seen reason to believe that the bulk of destructible and insurable property is, in fact, already insured."

We have stated that the revenue derived in 1856 amounted to £1,203,861; and have now to consider what would be the effect of a reduction of the duty on the revenue now derived from an insured value of £802,500,000. If the duty were reduced from 3s. to 1s. 6d., property to the amount of £1,605,000,000 ought to be insured; if to 1s., £2,407,000,000; and if to 6d., £4,815,000,000. On such results it is absurd to speculate.

When the new Parliament meets it is highly probable that this subject may be revised, and therefore we have shown the impolicy of reduction in the present state of our finances.

EMIGRATION TO CANADA.—THE THROUGH TICKET SYSTEM.

On the 11th of March the *Eliza Mary*, the first emigrant ship from Antwerp in connexion with the Grand Trunk Railway of Canada, under the booking-through system, sailed for Quebec. Among her passengers she carried sixty-six who availed themselves of the arrangements of the Grand Trunk Company, and took at Antwerp through tickets to their destination. Of these forty-one were booked for Green Bay, in Wisconsin, a distance of 1091 miles from Quebec, for £51 12s. 6d.; and twenty-five to Chicago, in Illinois, 1007 miles from Quebec, for £38 17s. The system thus inaugurated will doubtless be made available by many thousands during the present season, as through tickets to all stations on lines connected with the Grand Trunk are procurable at every British and Continental port whence passenger vessels sail to Canada, and the system, besides the economy of time and money arising from it, relieves the emigrant from liability to fraud and deception.

EXPERIENCES IN AUSTRALIA.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

BALIARAT.

THROUGH you I wish to give to those who think of emigrating to this country my own personal experience of the colony, and a few remarks on subjects which have come under my own eye, in which I had a bitter reason to take an interest, and which now may be interesting to them. I am no scholar, and do not write this merely to see my words appear in print; but in hopes that it may be beneficial to many who may, as I once did, possess a craving to emigrate.

I left London about two years ago, taking a third-class passage in a large emigrant vessel. The passage I will say nothing about; I was full of hope, and, being merry as a cricket, everything that occurred—except a poor sailor tumbling overboard—gave me pleasure, and I heard "Land, O!" with delight; and, with many others, eagerly clung to the bulwarks, longing for its welcome appearance. I saw it at last: since then I have had cause to regret that I ever did. I landed in Melbourne with £27 7s. in my pocket. Although that was more than many of my fellow-passengers had, yet I was determined to hoard it carefully, well knowing that it was my only friend. In those days there was a small spot at the foot of Russell-street, and on the banks of the Yarra, called Canvas Town—named so from the number of tents pitched upon it. Into one of these tents I was received at 21s. a week. For this sum I had my meals, and a "flea-bag" to sleep upon; but, as it was very reasonable, I was satisfied. Day after day I left the little tent—hopeful at first, but, as the time wore on, with increasing anxiety, I sought everywhere, but sought in vain, for employment; and, tired, but not dispirited, I was glad enough when the time came to give the fleas their supper—as happy, perhaps, as they were to receive it.

Our tent contained, besides myself, seven young men similarly situated, so that the landlord could afford to take a daily paper. This was read, or, I should say, the advertisements were read, by one of our number, for the benefit of all; and, as he read, we pencilled down extracts which we thought would suit us, and, dropping off one by one, would hurry away in different directions to meet again amidst a crowd of applicants for the much-desired vacancy. We tried stone-breaking, and pick and shovel work upon the roads; but these jobs were not permanent, and, although the wages were good, still the money would glide away when the finished contract threw us out of employment.

About three months after my arrival I was attacked with dysentery. Some said that the water which I drank was the cause of it, but in my case I could not think so; but my mates declared that it was, and, to pass away the time in a friendly manner, would enumerate many instances of the complaint proving fatal to those who drank freely of the water without a stiller in it. Whether it was or was not didn't matter to me a button; I had it, and it made me wish what the young men were often kind enough to express, that I could be safe and steady upon my pins again.

I was pale enough on the first day that I ventured out, and I felt that there was very little use in going to ask for a job at stone-breaking. I was very weak, and the cold perspiration covered my forehead and thin hands. The hot dust and the burning sun, the rattling wheels and the bustle and confusion of the thronged streets, made me feel very queerish indeed; but needs must, I had seen an advertisement requiring a young man of unexceptionable references, as light porter, in a boot and shoe shop. Light enough I was, God knows, but I had cheek enough to present myself, with about thirty others, as a candidate for the office. Amongst the applicants I noticed three of our first-cabin passengers. Two of them I did not know personally, but from what I had heard concerning them on board, and from their appearance, I believe that they were what they represented themselves to be—Doctors of Medicine. The other gentleman had been an officer in one of her Majesty's regiments of foot. Very fortunately for me, this boot and shoe merchant proved to be an old acquaintance; and I did not forget to put him in mind of this; but he was a good-hearted man, and saw that I was seedy; so he engaged me at £2 a week, and gave me £1 in advance. I remained with him for six months, and was thinking of getting married to a very industrious young washerwoman (fourteen thousand miles away from this I had seen her play the piano, knit, crochet, and botanize a bit; but she found that by these accomplishments she could not earn a livelihood in Melbourne; and, being a widow and a mother at one-and-twenty, she was obliged to wash for us and many more, to make her daily bread; but the opposition was so strong that my poor little widow was sometimes badly enough off). As I was saying, I had thoughts of getting married, or, rather thoughts of asking her consent, just as a matter of form, when, colonial like, my employer one morning declared himself insolvent which settled me to a T.

I was now once more in the market struggling with men of every profession, trade, and calling. In strong bodies, and at an early hour, we besieged every hotel, shop, and warehouse, that was bold enough to enter an advertisement in the papers. Waiter, boots, groom, or lamp-cleaner, anything that would yield a sixpence or a slice of bread, was eagerly battled for. Our newspapers tell you to look at our colonial papers, and see the demands for labour, but they do not tell you that a hundred hungry men are ready where but one is required, and that thousands upon thousands are annually arriving to add misery to misery.

One Monday morning my old boot and shoe employer came to me and said that he was off for the diggings. He asked me what money I had, and I told him that I had 5s. 6d. in cash, and, by pawning a spare pair of trousers that I had, I thought I could raise 8s.

He wasn't a bad sort of fellow, the merchant, and must have known very well that I had no money when he came to me, so he stood "a shout" of glasses all round, and told me to "hump my swag," which meant to roll up my blankets and sling them over my shoulders. He lent me a five-pound note, and said that he had two mates with him, but having no cook he thought of me, and told his mates that I would be handy enough for them. We started on foot for the Mery Creek diggings, and tramped it in five days. If I tell you that I was very much pleased with the camping out in the open air, and listening to the tales of the old diggers by the camp fire, you will be running away with some high-flown ideas about rough jolly Bushmen, independent life, and the grand novelty of the thing. I do not wish you to do this. To some it is pleasant enough: it is pleasant to those who have a little ready money in their pockets to keep them going at the first start, but it is no longer pleasant to them when, after months of labour, they find their little stock of money gone, and the long-expected nuggets as invisible as ever.

Month after month did we struggle, hard days of heavy labour, and many a wet shirt sticking to our reeking hides showed to those around us that we did not despair; but we tore up the earth and washed it in leads to no purpose. We should have been more comfortable, and better off, had we been working in the streets of London at a shilling a day.

Hundreds of our fellow gold-seekers were doing no better. Men of capital, who could afford to hold out, in some instances drew prizes; some spent their capital and then starved. Will a paltry hutkeeper's billet compensate such men as these for the loss of labour, capital, and the comforts which can be procured on a moderate salary at home?

Young men leave home with a letter or two of introduction, and fancy that they are all right; a few may realise their expectations, but they are as one to ten of those who do not. I had letters. I can't help laughing when I think of them. I was as proud as Punch on board, and told some of the chaps that I had friends in the colony who would soon shove me into something. Three of my letters, I was told before I left home, would only procure me acquaintances; the fourth—the one on which my hopes were built—was directed to an influential man, and one who, I was told, would do everything to oblige me. As soon as I could possibly do so I called at his office and presented my letter. He glanced at me, opened it, and read it through very attentively. All right I thought: he's considering what he can do for me. And perhaps he was, and found that he could do nothing. At all events he inquired after my friends, asked the news of the war, told me that an active young man like me ought soon to be able to get something, I had better look round the city, and so on, without even inviting me to what better letters of introduction are worth—a dinner. He bowed me out, and that was the last I saw of him.

I am at my old work, stone-breaking, again. It's fine exercise, and a fine thing to give vent to the feelings—I always do a better day's work when I think of emigration. I shouldn't like some of you to be under my hammer when I caught you leaving old England to come out here, I can tell you; but I must be off to work; I shall find it less difficult to hammer the blue stone than hammer anything like convincing proofs of the true state of affairs into your unbelieving hearts.

I am Sir, through you, to all, a COLONIAL STONE-BREAKER.

THE CATTLE MURRAIN.—ORDER IN COUNCIL PROHIBITING THE IMPORTATION OF CATTLE, &c.

(From the Supplement to the London Gazette of April 3.)

At the Court at Buckingham Palace, the 2nd day of May, 1857.—Present, the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council. Whereas it has been represented to her Majesty that certain contagious or infectious disorders are now prevalent among cattle in certain countries or places bordering upon the Baltic Sea, and that there is danger of the said disorders being introduced into this country by means of cattle and horns, hoofs, and raw and wet hides, or skins of cattle, from such countries or places; now, therefore, her Majesty, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, doth order, and it is hereby ordered, that from and after the date hereof, no cattle and no horns, hoofs, or raw or wet hides, or skins of cattle, shall be imported or introduced into the United Kingdom, which shall be, or shall have been, on board any vessels at the same time with any cattle or horns, hoofs, or raw or wet hides, or skins of cattle which shall have come from or shall have been at any such place as aforesaid.

And her Majesty, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, doth hereby further order that all cattle, and all horns, hoofs, and raw or wet hides, or skins of cattle, the importation or introduction whereof is so hereby prohibited as aforesaid, and also all hay, straw, fodder, litter, or manure, being or having been in or on board any vessels at the same time with any such cattle, or horns, hoofs, or raw or wet hides, or skins of cattle as aforesaid, shall, upon their arrival in this country, be destroyed, or otherwise disposed of, as the Commissioners of her Majesty's Customs may direct.

And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury are to give the necessary directions herein accordingly. C. C. GREVILLE.

THE BURIAL OF SIR JOHN MOORE.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

HAVING a short time since given, in your Journal, a statement of the circumstances attending the death and burial of that brave and lamented officer, Sir John Moore, at Corunna, in the year 1809, at which I was present—it being my painful lot, as Chaplain to the Guards, to officiate on that memorable occasion—I need only, in reply to the inquiries contained in a letter which lately appeared in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, refer the inquirer to that letter for the facts of which I was an eye-witness and a participator in, and of which I should suppose no further corroboration could be necessary. But if your Correspondent wishes to have them corroborated by another person present on that memorable occasion I would refer him to the present Commander-in-Chief in Ireland, whom I assisted in bearing Moore's body to the grave and depositing it there, as described in the quotation to which I now refer, from the account given of it by the General's brother, in "A Narrative of the Campaign of the British Army in Spain commanded by his Excellency Lieutenant-General Sir John Moore, B. &c. &c. Authenticated by Official Papers and Original Letters." By James Moore, Esq. The 4th Edition. London: Printed for J. Johnson, St. Paul's Churchyard, 1809.

Page 366. "At twelve o'clock at night the remains of Sir John Moore were carried to the citadel by Colonel Gresham, Major Colborne, and the Aides-de-Camp, and deposited in Colonel Gresham's quarters. A grave was dug by a party of the 9th Regiment, the Aides-de-Camp by turns attending. No coffin could be procured, and the body was never undressed, but wrapped up by the officers of his staff in a military cloak and blankets. Towards eight o'clock in the morning some firing was heard. It was then resolved to finish the interment, lest a serious attack should be made, on which the officers would be ordered away, and not suffered to pay the last duties to their General. The officers of his family bore the body to the grave; the funeral service was read by the Chaplain, and the corpse was covered with earth."

A faithful copy.

H. J. S.

A SWORD OF THE "SIX HUNDRED."—We saw and handled yesterday a relic of Balacava, in the shape of a sword wielded by Lord Leveson Gower, in the famous charge of the "Six Hundred." It is a Scottish claymore of great antiquity, having been in the possession of the Granville family for several centuries, made of the finest tempered steel, with basket hilt of the same material, and it measures about three feet from point to guard. The owner presented it to Captain Du Riviere, of the Zouaves, the present possessor, who succoured him while lying on the field of Balacava, desperately wounded. The scabbard is dentured in several places by the hoofs of horses, and the hilt is slightly injured by the thrust of a Cossack's lance. The charge of the "Light Brigade" is not so recent but that this relic of the event possesses considerable historic interest.—*New York Evening Post.*

THE RELIEF OF THE POOR IN ENGLAND.—According to a return moved for by Mr. Henric, just before the dissolution of the late Parliament, of the money expended for in and out-door relief in every county in England and Wales for the half-years ending Michaelmas, 1855 and 1856, it appears that the total amount expended for the relief of the poor in the 13,135 parishes in England was for 1855, £1,400,000; and in 1856, £1,340,000; thus showing a decrease on the latter year of £60,000, or 4 1/2 per cent. The population of the parishes for which the returns are issued is 15,541,851 (Census of 1851). The expense of relief on the total population is, therefore, about 2s. 4 1/2d. per head for the half-year. In Wales, in the 1010 parishes, and a population of about 1,000,000, the expense of poor relief was in 1855, £131,441; and in 1856, £137,634, showing an increase in the latter half-year of £6193, or about 4 1/2 per cent. The cost of the maintenance of the poor in Wales upon the total population is, therefore, greater than in England, being 2s. 8 1/2d. for each person.

THE INCOME-TAX.—The reduced Income-tax came into operation on Tuesday last. Here-forth parties receiving £150 and upwards will only have to pay 7d. in the pound, in place of 1s. 4d., as heretofore; and those exceeding £100, and not amounting to £150, 5d. in place of 11 1/2d. The contributors under schedule D will not, however, receive the full benefit of the alteration for some time to come. They will still practically have to pay the higher rate for the greater portion of the ensuing year, inasmuch as the greater portion of the arrears to and for the 5th inst. will not, and cannot be, collected before Christmas, or, perhaps, April next.

THE EUPHRATES VALLEY ROUTE TO INDIA.*

It has often been remarked by political philosophers that the admirable highways of the Romans materially contributed to the extension and duration of their empire. They stretched away from the central terminus or point of departure near the Temple of Saturn, in the Roman Forum, to the most distant provinces. There Augustus raised a column—the Milliare Aureum, or Golden Milestone—on which were inscribed the distances to the principal cities of Italy. The roads were only terminated by the frontiers of the Empire. "It," says Gibbon, "we trace the distance from the wall of Antoninus to Rome, and from thence to Jerusalem, it will be found that the great chain of communication from the north-west to the south-east of the Empire was drawn out to the length of four thousand and eighty English miles." Along these roads, flagged, not paved, it was easy to travel one hundred miles a day. "As an example of rapid travelling in the later periods of the Empire," the great historian adds, in a note to the passage just quoted, that "in the time of Theodosius, Cæsarius, a magistrate of high rank, went from Antioch to Constantinople. He began his journey at night, was in Cappadocia (105 miles from Antioch) the ensuing evening, and arrived at Constantinople the sixth day about noon. The whole distance was 725 Roman, or 605 English miles." This rate of locomotion is insignificant when compared with the speed attainable by modern railways; but it was prodigious during the Roman Empire, wonderfully facilitating the dispatch of imperial orders and centralising the more important operations of the colossal government. The example should not be lost on the statesmen of England.

Among the most grandly useful projects of our times are those which aim at connecting Asia and Europe by the triple agency of railways, electric telegraphs, and steam-ships; and among them one of the most judiciously conceived is the route to India by the Euphrates Valley, proposed by Mr. W. P. Andrew. This magnificent scheme is recommended both by political and commercial considerations. We all remember the avidity with which the late Emperor of Russia desired to appropriate to himself the inheritance of the "sick man" at Constantinople; and every watchful Englishman well aware how craftily his successor is seeking to reduce Persia to a state of vassalage. It is our duty, and our interest combined with our duty, to defeat this project, not by the seizure and annihilation of territory to

* "Memoir of the Euphrates Valley Route to India, with Official Correspondence and Maps." By W. P. Andrew, F.R.G.S. W. H. Allen, Leadenhall-street.

the British Crown, but by rendering both the Sultan and the Shah self-sustaining through the extension of commerce and the introduction of Western arts, Western science, and Western civilisation. In barbarous nations some highly-gifted individuals may, by force of native genius alone, rise to the dignity of true greatness, but the great body of the people can only be improved by coming into contact with foreign peoples of superior intelligence.

Two rival schemes for connecting Europe and Asia are before the public—one by cutting a ship canal through the Isthmus of Suez—the other by a combination of railway and ocean steamers along the Euphrates Valley and the Persian Gulf. Both have their merits; but the latter has the advantage in the economy of time and distance as between England and British India, as the following comparison demonstrates:—

For the conveyance of troops, passengers, mails, &c., from England and via Egypt to the Punjab and Upper India, to the north west of Delhi, the route by Kurrachee and the Indus is shorter by more than 2700 miles than by Calcutta and the Ganges; and when the Euphrates Valley route is established, the distance between London and Lahore or Delhi by the Indus will be more than 3700 shorter than via Suez and Calcutta; the distance from London to Lahore being

Via Egypt, Calcutta, and the Ganges	3322 miles
Via Egypt, Kurrachee, and the Indus	6615 "
Via Euphrates, Kurrachee, and the Indus	5595 "
By the arrangements now proposed, India will be reached in fifteen or sixteen days, or in about half the time now occupied.	
London to Trieste, by rail	1300 .. 2 0
Trieste to Seleucia, by steamer	1600 .. 6 12
Seleucia to Ja'ber Castle, by rail	100 .. 0 3
Ja'ber Castle to Bussorah, by steamer	715 .. 3 3
Bussorah to Kurrachee, by steamer	1000 .. 4 0
Total	4715 .. 15 18

When the railway is completed from Seleucia to Bussorah the time occupied will be 13 days 18 hours.

Along the Syrian coast there is no harbour so susceptible of improvement as Seleucia, where the massive works of the Romans still remain. By extending the great mole which they constructed the whole mercantile navy of England would obtain a secure port of refuge; and to complete this most useful work General Chesney and Captain Allen, R.N., consider that a trifling outlay of from £20,000 to £30,000 would be sufficient. From Seleucia to Antioch the distance is eighteen miles: Aleppo is forty-two miles from Antioch, containing 90,000 inhabitants, and being the emporium of Syrian trade. The importance of this projected railway will best be appreciated by reminding the reader that the Euphrates gives a water communication to the central districts of Syria, Asia Minor, and Asia Major, and with the south of Persia and Kurdistan. This portion of the world, it is well known, abounds in all the elements of material wealth; and it is our mission to elevate the character of the people, to root out their prejudices, to form them to habits of patient industry, to con-



KUNDEY RAS, THE GUICOWAR OF GOOJERAT, AND HIS DAUGHTER. FROM A PHOTOGRAPH.

quer their sloth, to teach them that they will gain more by commercial pursuits than by predatory and marauding expeditions. Surely there is nothing Utopian in the hope that the ancient glory of Bagdad and of Bussorah may be revived? Nor is it a rash prediction that the valleys of the Tigris and Euphrates may again become the seats of mighty empires, or that the Persian Gulf may become an Oriental Adriatic. Civilised Europe, abandoning the horrors, the cruelties, and the waste of war, may direct its energies to the restoration of Babylonia and Chaldea, and plant Christianity on the ruins of a decaying superstition.

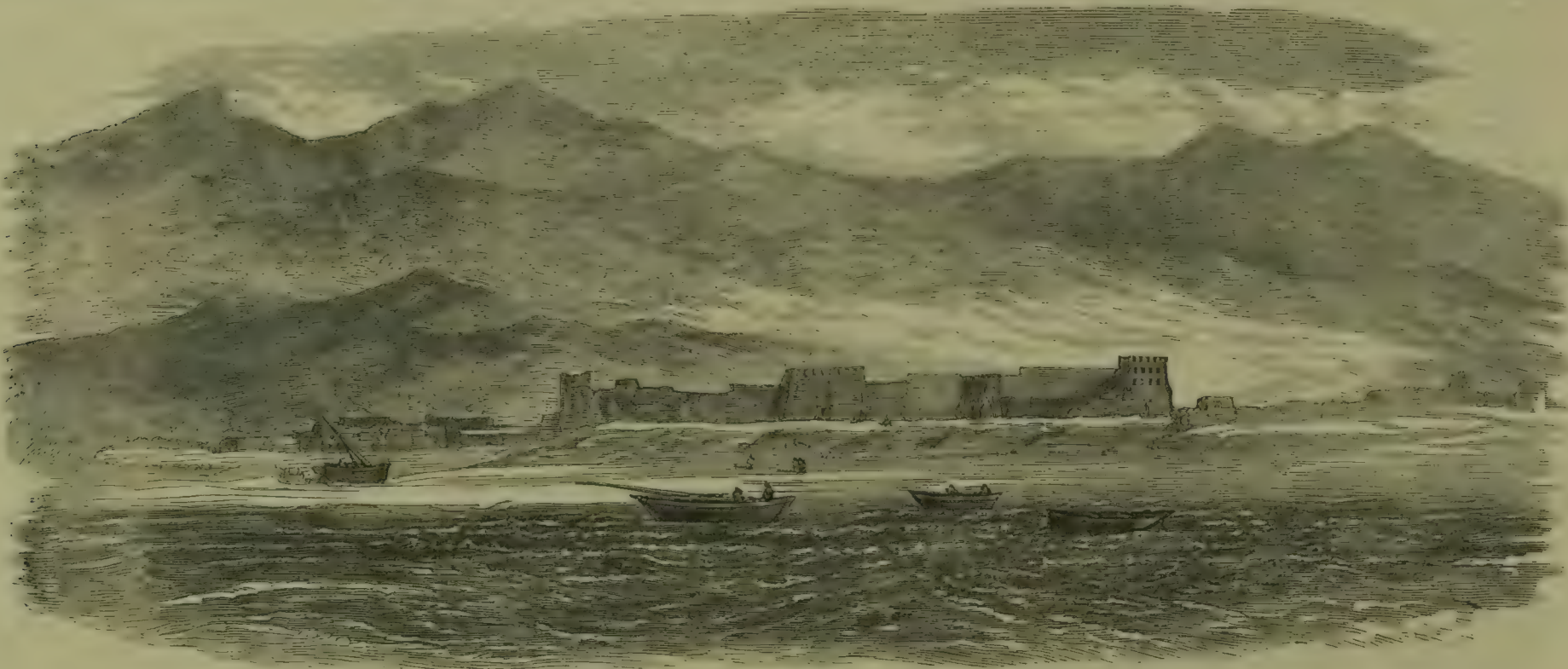
THE GUICOWAR OF GOOJERAT.

As Eastern affairs at present occupy so prominent a position, and seem likely to awaken a still-increasing interest, the accompanying Portrait of his Highness the Guicowar (from a photograph taken a few weeks since at his palace in Baroda), who has lately ascended the throne of Goojerat, may prove acceptable to our readers. His Highness is seated with his daughter on his knee. His dress is of the richest silk, the borders embroidered with gold and pearls; while the brilliancy and value of his jewels almost realise the most gorgeous imaginings of the much-exaggerated Eastern magnificence.

Kunderas has a pleasing, intelligent expression of countenance. He appears to possess great muscular strength, and is a capital shot. He also rides and hunts beautifully, using a European saddle, and top-boots, and is a perfect Nimrod. As he has never hitherto been addicted to the miserable excesses which disgraced the reign of the late Guicowar, it is to be hoped his energy and intelligence will ensure to his dominions as much good government as we can hope to see developed in a native Court. At present his liberality of sentiment, and apparently eager desire to be on the most friendly terms with the British, promise much. He expresses the utmost interest in our success against Persia, and has even proposed to pay and equip a regiment of infantry and a battery of artillery in our service; and, when the news of the taking of Bushire arrived, he immediately ordered a Royal salute to be fired. Doubtless much of this good understanding may be attributed to the admirable management of the present Resident, and to his firm but kind and friendly treatment. Still, at the present crisis of our Indian affairs, the fidelity and good feeling of the native Princes ought to be more than ever valued. His Highness has as yet only reigned for two or three months, and of course things are at their brightest. It remains to be proved whether his liberality extends so far as to permit the spread of European civilisation and Christian education, which have hitherto made lamentably little progress among the people of Goojerat.

BUNDER DEELUM.

THE accompanying view of one of the numerous forts in the Persian Gulf has been sketched from the deck of the Hon. East India Company's steam-vessel *Berenice* by Assistant Surgeon L. S. Bruce,



BUNDER DEELUM, IN THE PERSIAN GULF.

H.C.S. It affords a good specimen of the forts of the coast, as well as a view of the mountain scenery.

Mr. Binning, in his "Journal of Two Years' Travel," just published, describes the coast of Persia as now presenting no view but sterile, barren, and desolate chains of rocks and hills; and the general

aspect of the Gulf is dismal and forbidding. Moore's charming allusions to Osman's Sea, with its—

Banks of pearl and palmy isles, are, unfortunately, quite visionary, for uglier or more unpicturesque scenery our traveller never beheld.

SKETCHES IN CHINA.

To our obliging Correspondents we are indebted for the accompanying characteristic groups and view of Chinese life.

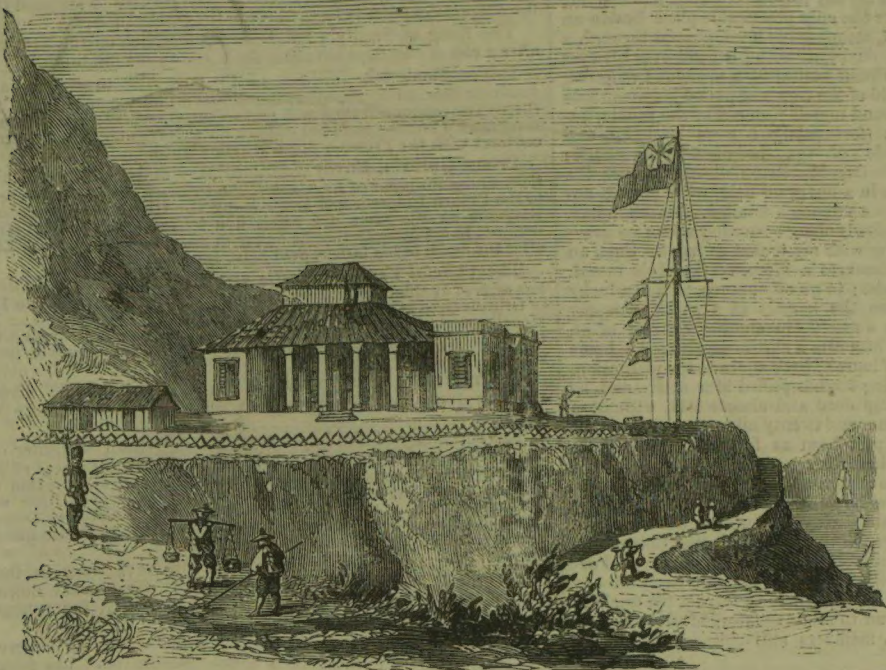
The first is a group of Peasant Women of Foochow, remarkable for their fantastic head-dresses. One of the figures shows the usual



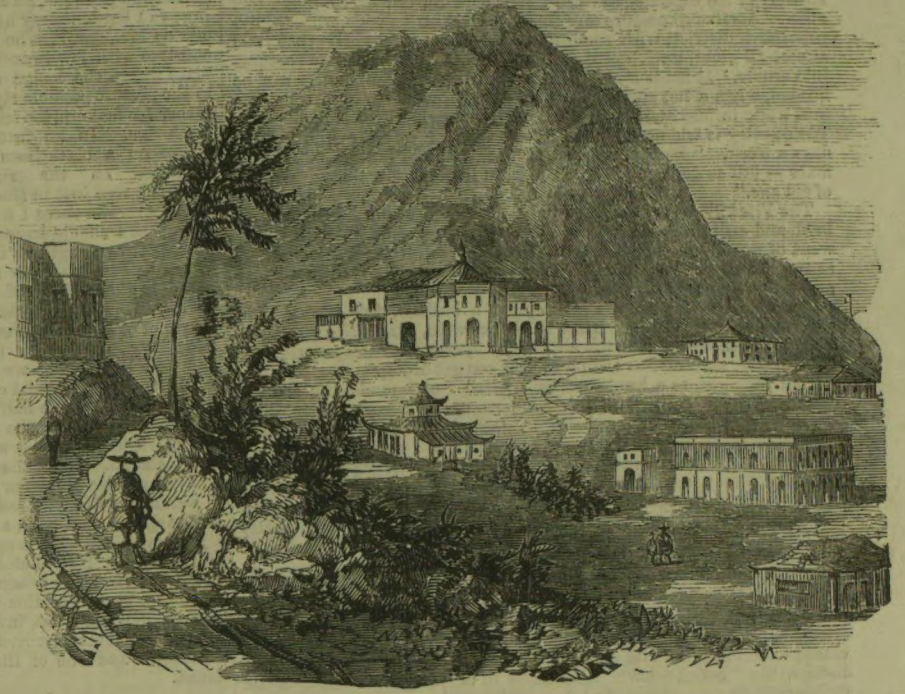
CHINESE PEASANT WOMEN.



CHINESE COSTUMES, NORTH PART OF KWANG-TUNG.



PEDDER'S HILL AND HARBOUR-MASTER'S HOUSE, HONG-KONG.



VICTORIA PEAK, HONG-KONG.

method of carrying articles in baskets. The second group illustrates the costumes peculiar to the northern part of Kwang-tung. The members of the group are of various grades:—First are a nurse and child; next, a fisherman; then, two unmarried females; and, lastly, a married lady. In the background are seen portions of houses of the district.

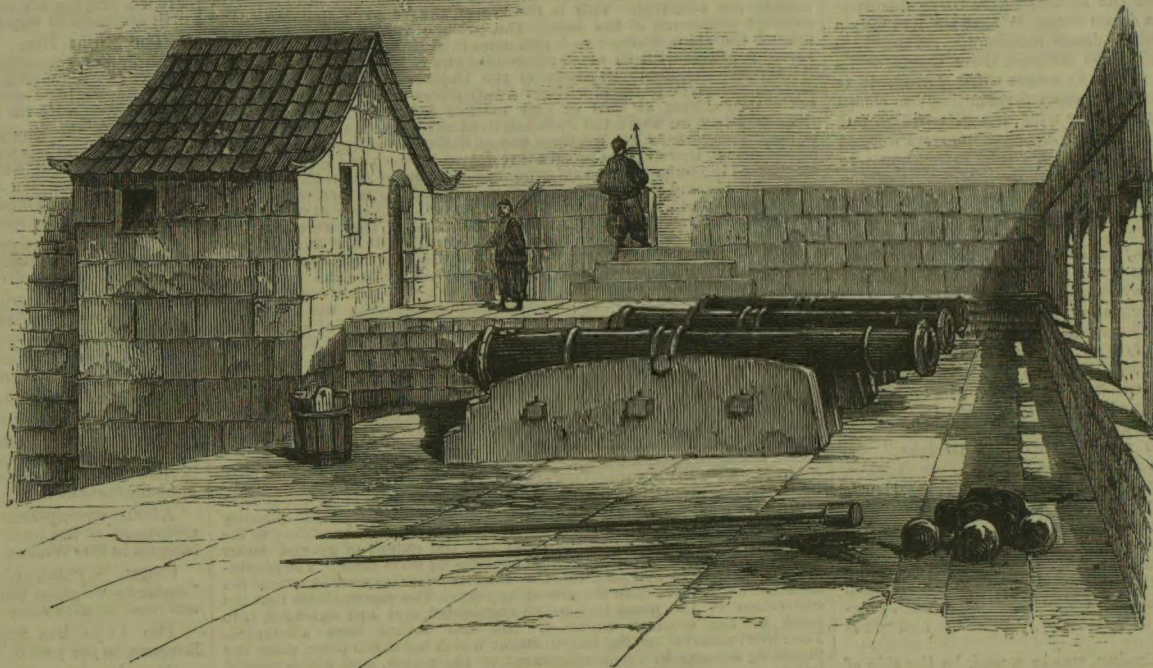
The two accompanying Sketches show prominent and well-known spots in the town of Victoria, Island of Hong-Kong.

First is the east side of Pedder's Hill, late the Harbour-master's residence and office, 84 feet above and 360 from high-water mark. This View is taken from the 3-gun battery in front of the new Government offices.

Next is a north-east view of Victoria Peak, 1800 feet high, taken from the Harbour-master's Flagstaff, showing Caine's House, late the residence of Governor Sir John F. Davis, Bart. Below is a Chinese Bungalow, the first solid building erected on Hong-Kong as a European residence in 1841, by the present Lieut.-Governor, Col. Caine; to the right, on the slope of the hill, the Magistracy and Prison compound.

These Sketches were taken by the late Arthur V. Johns, Esq., H.C.S., and will be easily recognised by any one who has visited the colony.

The Fort represented in the next Illustration is named Kowloon, and lies opposite Hong-Kong. Even in their fondness for colour, those of Kowloon Fort being black



KOWLOON FORT, OPPOSITE HONG-KONG.

with red muzzles and mouldings, and mounted on black carriages. *Apres of Chinese artillery, the Moniteur de l'Armée says:—*

A very curious discovery was made by the English during the late attack upon Canton, and one which will serve to illustrate the history of the use of artillery. The landing-party, which was sent ashore after the English vessels opened their fire, found in one of the forts upon the river, from which the garrison had been expelled, a battery of six bronze pieces of artillery, of the calibre of 16 lb., the peculiar shape of which attracted the attention of the officer in command of the detachment. These cannon were stamped near the touchhole with the Imperial cipher, surrounded with Chinese characters, inclosed within a series of arabesque very gracefully designed. In the middle of these ornaments was a cross, in relief, and below the cross was the date of 1697 in Roman letters. One of the cannon was put on board the Admiral's flag-ship, to be sent to England; the others were spiked. Investigations which were afterwards made show the origin of them. The cipher which they bear is that of the Emperor Kong-Hi, one of the most eminent of the Chinese Sovereigns, who was born in 1653, and died in 1723. This Monarch admitted the Jesuits to his Court, and employed them in different branches of his administration. One of them, the Père Boulin, was charged with the superintendence of the cannon foundry at Nankin, and this is probably a specimen of his workmanship.

The lower View is a picturesque scene upon the Canton River—a Fort, with Chinese buildings, &c.



DUTCH FOLLY FORT, CANTON RIVER.

ZIGZAGS OF HUNTING.

THE EARL FITZWILLIAM'S HUNT.

THE kennels of the Fitzwilliam hounds are at the Earl's usual residence, Milton Park, three miles from Peterborough, which four railways intersect, and eleven miles from Stamford.

The Fitzwilliam pack was established by the father of the present Earl between seventy and eighty years ago; they are maintained entirely at his expense, and hunt four days a week over a north-east strip of Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire—a wide, wild, thinly-populated district, with some fine woodlands; a country that was almost all grass, until deep draining turned some cold clay pastures into arable. It holds a rare scent, and the woodland country can be hunted, when a hot sun does not bake the ground too hard, up to the first week in May, when, in most other countries, horns are silenced. The country is wide enough, with foxes enough, to bear hunting six days a week. "Bless your heart, Sir," said an old farmer, "there be foxes as tall as donkeys, as fat as pigs, in these woods, that go and die of old age."

The Fitzwilliam are supposed to be the biggest-boned hounds now bred, and exquisitely handsome. If they have a fault, they are, for want of work, or excess of numbers, rather too full of flesh; so that, at the end of the year, when the days grow warm, they seem to tire and tail in a long run.

The fences are big enough to keep out a bullock, the ditches wide and full of water, bulfinches are to be met with, stiff rails, gates not always unlocked; so although a Pytchley flyer is not indispensable, on a going day, nothing less than a hunter can get along.

Tom Sebright, as a huntsman and breeder of hounds, has been a celebrity ever since he hunted the Quorn, under Squire Osbaldeston, six-and-thirty years ago. Sebright looks the huntsman, and the huntsman of an hereditary pack, to perfection: rather under than over the middle height; stout without being unwieldy; with a fine full, intelligent, and fresh-complexioned oval countenance; keen grey eyes; and the decided nose of a Cromwellian Ironside. A fringe of white hair below his cap, and a broad bald forehead, when he lifts his cap to cheer his hounds, tell the tale of Time on this accomplished veteran of the chase.

"The field," with the Fitzwilliam, is more aristocratic than fashionable; it includes a few peers and their friends from neighbouring noble mansions, a good many squires, now and then undergraduates from Cambridge, a very few strangers by rail, and a great many first-class yeomen farmers and graziers. Thus it is equally unlike the fashionable "cut-me-down" multitude to be met at coverside in the "Shires" *par excellence*, and the scarlet mob who rush, and race, and lark from and back to Leamington and Cheltenham. For seeing a good deal of sport in a short time, the Fitzwilliam is certainly the best within a hundred miles of London. You have a first-rate pack, first-rate huntsman, a good scenting country, plenty of foxes, fair fences to ride over, and, though last not least, very courteous reception, if you know how to ride and when to hold your tongue and your horse.

I had three days with the Fitzwilliam last season—two in the woodland—when a burning sun destroyed every vestige of scent. The hounds working most beautifully could make nothing out, even when the fox had crossed a ride before our eyes the instant before they came up—this being repeated not once but a dozen times, so that we had only a few disappointing scurries over some damp meadows. As there are fine open drives cut in every direction through these woods, and a country of large inclosures for a fox to fly across when forced, it is well worth resorting to in a damp spring when fox-hunting has closed up in the corn counties. My fortunate day with the Fitzwilliam was in their open pasture, Huntingdon country. My head-quarters were at the celebrated "Haycock," which is known, or ought to be known, to every wandering fox-hunter, standing as it does in the middle of the Fitzwilliam Hunt, within reach of some of the best meets of the Pytchley and the Warwickshire, and not out of reach of the Cottesmore and Belvoir. It is much more like a Lincolnshire Wolds farmhouse than an inn. The guests are regular *habitues*; you find yourself in a sort of foxhunting club-house, in a large, snug dining-room, not the least like Albert Smith's favourite aversion, a coffee-room; you have a first-rate English dinner, undeniable wine, real cream with your tea; in a word, all the comforts and most of the luxuries of town and country life combined. If needful, Tom Percival will provide you with a flyer for every day in the week, and you will be sure to meet with one or two guests, able and willing, ready to canter with you to cover, explain the chart of the country, and, if you are in the first year of boots and breeches, show you as Squire Warburton sings, how "To sit down in your saddle and put his head straight." So said Piccadilly Anderson, and sent a horse-loving New Yorker, anxious to see foxhunting, down to the Haycock. Transatlantic commenced his career with more pluck and success than judgment, by riding over five five-barred gates in one day. The walls of the dining-room show his grateful recollection of a pleasant fifteen days, in a series of lithographs of American trotters in harness, more hideous than even winners of the Derby; however, they furnish conversation for the temporary tenants of the before-mentioned arm-chaired and Turkey-carpeted, well-screened, lighted, and fire-lazing foxhunters' rest.

The meet, within four miles of the inn, was in a park by the side of a small firwood plantation. Punctual to a minute, up trotted Sebright on a compact, well-bred chestnut in blooming condition, the whips equally well mounted on thoroughbreds, all dressed in ample scarlet coats and dark cord breeches—a style of dress in much better taste than the tight, short dandified costume of the fashionable hunt, where the huntsman can scarcely be distinguished from the "swell."

Of the Earl's family there were present a son and daughter, and three grandsons, beautiful boys, in Lincoln green loose jackets, brown cords, breeches, black boots, and caps; of these, the youngest, a fair, rosy child of about eight or nine years old, on a thoroughbred chestnut pony, was all day the admiration of the field; he dashed along full of genuine enthusiasm, stopping at nothing practicable.

Amongst others present was a tall, lithe, white-haired, white-moustached, dignified old gentleman, in scarlet and velvet cap, riding forward on a magnificent grey horse, who realised completely the poetical idea of a nobleman. This was the Marquis of H—, known well forty years ago in fashionable circles, when George IV. was Prince, now popular and much esteemed as a country gentleman and improving landlord. There was also Mr. H—, an M.P., celebrated, before he settled into place and "ceased his hum," as a hunter of Bishops—a handsome, dark man, in leathers and patent napoleons; with his wife on a fine bay horse, who rode boldly throughout the day.

In strange countries I usually pick out a leader in some well-knowing farmer; but this day I made a grand mistake, by selecting for my guide a slim, quiet-looking, young fellow, in a black hat and coat, white cords, and boots, on a young chestnut—never dreaming that my quiet man was Alec—, a farmer truly, but also a provincial celebrity as a steeplechaser.

The day was mild, cloudy, with a gentle wind. We drew several covers blank, and found a fox, about one o'clock, in a small spinney, from which he bolted at the first summons. A beautiful picture it was to see gallant old Sebright get his hounds away, the ladies racing down a convenient green lane, and the little Fitzwilliam, in Lincoln green, charging a double flight of hurdles. In half-an-hour's strong running I had good reason to rejoice that Percival had, with due respect for the fourth estate, put me on an unmistakable hunter. Our line took us over big undulating fields (almost hills), with on the flats or valleys a large share of willow-bordered ditches (they would call them brooks in some counties), with thick undeniable hedges between the pollards. At the beginning of the run my black-coated friend led me—much as a dog in a string leads a blind man—at a great pace, into a farmyard, thus artfully cutting off a great angle, over a most respectable stone wall into a home paddock, over a stile into a deep lane, and then up a bank as steep as a gothic roof, and almost as long, into a fifty-acre pasture, where, racing at best pace, we got close to the hounds just before they checked, between a broad unjumpable drain and a willow bed—two fine resources for a cunning fox. There I thought it well, having so far escaped grief, to look out for a leader who was less of a bruiser, while I took breath. In the mean time Sebright, well up, hit our friend off with a short cast forward, and, after five minutes' slow hunting, we began to race again over a flat country of grass, with a

few big ploughed fields, fences easier, ladies and ponies well up again. After brushing through two small coverts without hanging, we came out on a series of very large level grass fields, where I could see the grey horse of the Marquis, and the black hat of my first leader sailing in front; a couple of stiff hedges and ditches were got over comfortably; the third was a regular bulfinch, six or seven feet high, with a gate so far away to the right that to make for it was to lose too much time, as the hounds were running breast high. Ten yards ahead of me was Mr. Frank G—, on a Stormer colt, evidently with no notion of turning; so I hardened my heart, felt my bay nag full of going, and kept my eye on Mr. Frank, who made for the only practicable place beside an oak-tree with low branches, and, stooping his head, popped through a place where the hedge showed daylight, with his hand over his eyes in the neatest possible style. Without hesitating a moment I followed, rather too fast and too much afraid of the tree, and pulled too much into the hedge. In an instant I found myself torn out of the saddle, balanced on a blackthorn bough (fortunately I wore leathers), and deposited on the right side of the hedge on my back; whence I rose just in time to see Bay Middleton disappear over the next fence. So there I was alone in a big grass field, with strong notions that I should have to walk an unknown number of miles home. Judge of my delight as I paced slowly along—running was of no use—at seeing Frank G— returning with my truant in hand. Such an action in the middle of a run deserves a Humane Society's medal. To struggle breathlessly into my seat; to go off at a score, to find a lucky string of open gates, to come upon the hounds at a check, was my good fortune. But our fox was doomed—in another quarter of an hour at a hand gallop we hunted him into a shrubbery, across a home field into an ornamental clump of laurels, back again to the plantation, where a couple and a half of leading hounds pulled him down, and he was brought out by the first whip dead and almost stiff, without a mark—regularly rundown by an hour and twenty minutes with two very short checks. Had the latter part been as fast as the first, there would have been very few of us there to see the finish.

Returning slowly, I had time to snatch a hasty luncheon, get into a dog-cart, and post (with a change of horse at Uppingham) about twenty miles across the wild range of hills between Northamptonshire and Rutlandshire, into Leicestershire, in the midst of the Cottesmore country, where I saw some abominable crooked ploughing; and arrived just in time to dine at Keythorpe Hall with the party of our Central Farmers Club, invited by Lord Berners to inspect his remarkable agricultural improvements, and to relate the story of the day to an ex-master and one of the oldest members still riding of the Quorn Hunt.

A WARNING TO UNPROTECTED GENTLEMEN-TRAVELLERS.

The saloon is fitted up "regardless of expense," with the costliest gilding, carpeting, and furniture of every kind. The cookery, dinner service, and table appointments would do credit to the most splendid hotels either in the New or Old World. A small claret is supplied to the passengers in many of the boats, if not *ad lib.*, at least in tolerable sufficiency. This is a relic of the old French times, when Louisiana was a French province and the Mississippi a French stream. The lower end of the saloon, that next the stern, is partitioned off by doors and stained glass, so as to form a handsome drawing-room, generally supplied with a piano, and often with a great number of those elegant nothings which give drawing-rooms their charm. To this none but ladies, or gentlemen who have ladies in charge, are admitted. This is the harem, the women's apartment, the *sanctum sanctorum* of the boat. The profane vulgar, who congregate around the stove forward and spit upon it, shrink from approaching its sacred precincts with as much reverential awe as Giaour from a mosque. All through the Southern States of the Union, but particularly in the Mississippi boats, to travel without a lady places a man in a position, if not of degradation, at least of very marked inferiority. The ladies and their cavaliers, on board the *Princess*, lived altogether apart from the rest of the passengers. Although there was no difference whatever in the price of the places, there was as broad a line drawn between the inmates of the harem and the unhappy swains who had no women to protect them, as between cabin and steerage passengers in England. The former had their cards placed on their plates, and places reserved for them at every meal. When the bell rang no one dared to sit down until they were first seated. The rest of us stood in a hungry crowd about the door, and as soon as we saw the last chaperon comfortably installed by the side of his fair charge, his napkin on his knee, we were let loose and flung ourselves upon the table, and then upon our food, which was of course dispatched in a very few minutes. The whole proceeding was extremely humiliating and disgusting; no man who had a particle of self-respect could go through it with equanimity.—*Letters of an English Traveller in the Daily News.*

COTTON FROM ALGERIA.—The *Moniteur* publishes the report of the jury charged to award the prize of 20,000*fr.* given by the Emperor annually, for a period of five years from 1853, as an encouragement for the cultivation of cotton in Algeria. It commences by remarking on the great drought which prevailed during the last season in the colony, and which materially affected the cotton plants, large quantities having been destroyed for want of rain. This circumstance, however, is not considered by the jury as an argument against the climate of Algeria for the growth of the plant, as it is stated that, even in unfavourable seasons, the quantity produced has remunerated the growers for their labour. According to the calculations made at the end of June last, the extent of ground under cotton cultivation amounted to 1923 hectares (23 acres each). The plantations inscribed to compete for the Emperor's prize were in extent 234 hectares, being more than the preceding year. The report states that the cultivation of the plant had much augmented, and had extended into parts of the country where it had not before been attempted. The report observes on the improvement which has taken place since the preceding seasons in the management of the plants, and which cannot fail to develop itself still more when the planters have acquired more practical experience. The jury, by way of encouraging their exertions, allude to the commencement of cotton cultivation in America. In that country, as in Algeria, the growth of tobacco preceded that of cotton. In 1785, the United States only exported 14 bales of cotton; in 1786, 6; in 1787, 109; in 1788, 389; and in 1789, 81. Thus, at the end of four years, the annual export of the United States had not reached 400 bales, whilst at the end of the third season the export from Algeria has exceeded 600. The planters in Algeria have already obtained two important points towards competition with the United States—quality and equal yield, according to the quantity of ground planted. There remains a third to be attained, and that is the extent of production, which can only be accomplished when the number of hands employed can be sufficiently increased.

HOW GAMBLING WAS PUT DOWN IN NATCHEZ.—Natchez owes its origin and growth rather to the tide of colonisation which flowed from New Orleans up the banks of the Mississippi, than to that which rolled westward from the Carolinas and from Virginia. It is consequently a much older town than any other in the interior of the State. It was established and flourishing when the greater portion of the interior of Mississippi was still a howling wilderness. Some years ago it acquired unenviable notoriety by becoming the head-quarters of bands of robbers, nigger-stealers and gamblers, who had been compelled to "clear out" from Georgia, Tennessee, and Kentucky. They appear for some time to have had the town so completely in their hands that travellers arriving by the steam-boat were afraid to land and walk to the hotel on the height from the wharf below; and the few sober and orderly people who ventured to reside in the place were obliged to shut themselves up in their houses after nightfall, and sleep without other protection than their weapons and their good luck. Things at last reached such a state that a vigilance committee was formed, and the rowdies were requested to "absquatulate." The greater part accordingly took their departure, most of them for Texas. A good many proved contumacious, and refused to go; the result was, that the last day of the term allowed them for decamping the enraged and virtuous citizens lynched them *en masse*. Since then Natchez has been as peaceable and orderly as any town in the Union in which the "peculiar institution" is allowed full sway, and the action of vigilance committees, ever roused, is directed against those enemies of property known as Abolitionists.—*Letters of an English Traveller in the Daily News.*

TREASURE IN SAFETY.—A tradesman of the Rue Montmorency, at Paris, being greatly afraid of being robbed, secreted his money in different parts of the house, and did not even let his wife know where. One of his hiding-places was a stove in his shop, in which a fire had not been lighted for a long time, and in this place he deposited a number of bonds of the City of Paris, several bank-notes and securities, together with a not inconsiderable sum in pieces of 20*fr.* and 40*fr.* One day his wife, finding it rather cold, ordered the servant to light a fire in the stove. She was obeyed; and in about half an hour after her husband came home. On seeing the fire he uttered a loud cry, and, sinking on to a chair, broke out into the most piteous lamentations. It was some time before he could explain to his wife the cause of his grief. She at once had the fire extinguished; but, though the pieces of gold, greatly blackened, were found, the notes and securities had evaporated.

EXTRADITION OF CRIMINALS.—The *Giornale di Roma*, of the 27th ult., publishes a convention just concluded between the Holy See and Austria for the extradition of criminals. The convention contains no clause in favour of political refugees, but provides that, if an Austrian subject commit a crime in the Pontifical States, and then seek refuge again on the Austrian territory, the right of extradition shall not apply, and conversely, but that he shall be judged by the tribunals of his own country.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

Earl Granville left town last Saturday evening for Paris, for which capital the Countess departed the previous day. The noble Earl and Countess intend to stay three weeks in Paris, and then return to London to give a series of fashionable réunions.

Letters from St. Petersburg state that the Emperor will not visit Germany, Italy, nor France this spring; that, in fact, he will not at present leave his dominions. In addition to other reasons of State necessity for the Emperor remaining at home may perhaps be assigned this, that the Empress expects to be confined in the middle of April.

The King of Sardinia left Pollenzo for Nice on the 31st ult., and after a visit of two days left again for Turin on the 3rd inst.

Prince Frederick William of Prussia will meet his father at Berlin in May, to be present at the annual military manœuvres. Towards the end of the month they will go to Ostend, where they will be met by the Prince's mother, and then embark for this country, when the marriage contract with the Princess Royal will be signed.

Prince Galitzin, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Emperor of Russia, and the Princess Galitzin, were presented to the French Emperor and Empress by the Russian Ambassador. The Emperor on the same day received a letter, by which Seid Mejid announced to his Majesty that he had been recognised as Sultan of Zanzibar after the death of his father, Seid Said, Imaum of Muscat.

The *Official Verona Gazette* states that the Prince de Joinville has arrived at Genoa, but does not appear much in public. The Duchess of Orleans lives at Sestri di Ponente, not far from Genoa. The Duc de Montpensier is engaged in the study of agriculture, on the vast estates of the Infanta, his wife, in Andalusia; and the Duc d'Aumale is in Sicily, engaged in similar pursuits.

We regret to learn that the Right Hon. John W. Croker is suffering from indisposition, which occasions some anxiety to his relatives.

The ceremony of the baptism of the new-born daughter of Don Miguel took place on the 26th ult. in the church of the convent of Brunnbach (Styria). The godfather was Don Juan, second son of Don Carlos, who went from England for the occasion; and the godmother was the Duchess of Modena, represented by the Princess Eulalie de Lowenstein Wertheim Rosenberg. The newly-born infant received fifteen names, and among them those of Eulalie Isabella Caroline.

Three partners in one brewery firm will have seats in the new House—Sir E. N. Buxton, for East Norfolk; Mr. Charles Buxton, for Newport, Isle of Wight; and Mr. Robert Hanbury, the younger, for Middlesex.

Amongst recent visitors at Naples is Mrs. Beecher Stowe, who attracts much interest in a country where "Uncle Tom" has been twice translated and very generally read.

His Excellency Ferouk Khan, Envoy Extraordinary from Persia, gave a grand dinner last Sunday evening, in the true Persian style, at Claridge's Hotel, to the Lord Mayor and a select circle of guests.

Mr. Lowe arrived at his town residence in Lowndes-square on Sunday, whence he immediately started for his country seat in Surrey, where he will remain a week or two, until he has sufficiently recovered from the ruffianly violence he has recently undergone.

The Count of Syracuse, the brother of the King of Naples, has left for Rome, report says, to meet the Dowager Empress of Russia.

The Governor of Moldavia has addressed the Emperor of the French, praying his Majesty to permit a number of French officers and drill-sergeants to organise a military force.

The Right Hon. R. Vernon Smith, President of the Board of Control, has presented three cadetships in the East India Company's Service to Eton College. Dr. Hawtrey, the Provost, and Dr. Goodford, the Head Master, have conferred the cadetships on Messrs. Gibson, Stevens, and Whiting, with the consent of Mr. Vernon Smith.

Most of the members of the diplomatic corps at Vienna are making preparations for a sojourn in the country. The French Ambassador will reside at St. Veit, the Turkish and English Ambassadors at Heitzing, the Russian Ambassador at Baden, the Belgian Ambassador at Penzing, and the Ambassador from Wurtemberg at Vöslau.

The two United States' Senators from Pennsylvania, and the State Supreme Judge, the present Speaker, Clerk and Assistant-Clerk of the House, the Clerk of the Senate of Pennsylvania, and the Democratic candidate for Governor, are all practical printers.

Mr. Caird of Errol's sermon, preached before the Queen, has been translated into German, with a preface by Chevalier Bunsen, and ten thousand copies of it sold.

The Prince of Wurtemberg and the Grand Duchess Olga left Nice on the 3rd inst., on board the *Olaf* steamer, for Civita Vecchia.

The Bey of Tunis has sent an Embassy to Naples to congratulate the King on his late escape. The mission was received in Oriental style.

Riza Bey, who assisted at the Conferences of Vienna, and who has been lately the Minister from Turkey in Greece, has just been named to the post of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Sublime Porte at the Court of St. Petersburg.

About twenty-four distinguished guests have signified their acceptance of the joint invitation from the Mayor of Liverpool to the banquet to Mr. William Brown.

Count Gyulai, Commandant-General of the forces of the Lombardo-Venetian provinces, arrived at Milan on the 1st inst., and was received with salvos of artillery.

The Pope has appointed Cardinal Falconieri, Archbishop of Ravenna, to the post of Master of Requests.

Chevalier Pianelli, the Neapolitan diplomatist, whose departure from Naples, on a mission to the French Emperor, has been repeatedly denied, has arrived in Paris.

Colonel Symmons, C.B., British Commissioner for the settlement of the Turco-Russian frontiers in Asia, left Paris on Saturday for Marseilles, on his way to Constantinople and Erzeroum.

The Royal Speech read at the opening of the Supreme Council of Denmark stated that the approval of the Sound Dues Treaty was the principal purpose of their being summoned together.

Mr. T. S. Baynes, author of "The New Analytic of Logical Forms," and Mr. Alexander Bain, author of "The Senses and the Intellect," have been appointed Examiners in Logic and Moral and Intellectual Philosophy at the London University, in the place of the Rev. H. Alford (recently appointed Dean of Canterbury) and Mr. Burcham.

M. Niebur, Chief of the Prussian Privy Cabinet, whose name was so often mentioned during the war as one of the most devoted Russian advocates, is to be ennobled by prefixing "von" to his name.

Smith, late Receiver-General and Treasurer of the Bahamas, has been tried and found guilty for embezzling certain public moneys, and sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour.

Letters from Vienna announce that the celebrated singer Staudigl, who has been for a long time confined in a madhouse, is now in a worse state than ever; his mental excitement had a few days ago reached such a pitch that he was obliged to be confined in a strait-waistcoat.

A Bible, together with a handsome gold watch and chain, has been presented by the churchwardens and parishioners of Leigh and Bransford to their late curate, the Rev. Edward Bradley, alias "Cuthbert Bede," formerly a student in the University of Durham, who has been presented to the Incumbency of Bobbington, Staffordshire.

The London correspondent of the *Moniteur*, in reporting the nomination for Middlesex, with the utmost simplicity and faith in the accuracy of his statement, describes the metropolitan county as "en quelque sorte, un faubourg de Londres."

Count Paar left Turin with all the members of the Austrian Legation on the 28th ult.

At Hamburg the rate of discount has risen to the extraordinary height of eight per cent. This remarkable advance is presumed to be caused by the silver movement.

Prussia and Austria have allowed Denmark a further delay of three weeks for a final answer on the question of the Duchies.

The Great Western Railway Company are offering five per cent per annum for loans on debentures for three years, 4½ per cent for five years, and 4 per cent for seven years.

The Bank of Newcastle, at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, has stopped payment, having but four dollars in specie to redeem 100,000 dollars of their notes. The cashier, Mr. Waggoner, is said to have absconded with 50,000 dollars.

The bridge broken by the late railway accident in Canada has been repaired, and the trains are running as usual.

Forty years ago there were only six newspapers published in the whole of Upper and Lower Canada. At the present time Canada alone, exclusive of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, and Prince Edward Island, supports no less than 19 daily and 172 bi-weekly, tri-weekly, or weekly papers, as well as 35 monthly or quarterly publications. The total number of newspapers and periodicals issued in Canada is 226.

Memorabilia,
LITERARY, ANTIQUARIAN, SCIENTIFIC, AND
ARTISTIC.

"A little think may let in much light."—OLD PROVERB.

THE OLD MASTERS OF DEFENCE.

In Number V. of Routledge's "Shakespeare" is a very curious note to a passage in "Romeo and Juliet, act ii., scene 4, ("A duellist, a duellist; a gentleman of the very first house—of the first and second cause: Ah, the immortal passado! the punto reverso! the hay!") on those celebrated teachers of the duello who were so much in vogue in England towards the end of the sixteenth and beginning of the seventeenth century, and are so frequently alluded to by the dramatists of the period.

"In George Silver's 'Paradoxes of Defence,' London, 1599, 4to, it is stated that there were three 'Italian Teachers of Offence,' the first of whom was Signior Rocco, who had come into England about thirty years before. 'He disbursed a great summe of money for the lease of a house in Warwick-lane, which he called his college, for he thought it a great disgrace for him to keepe a fence-school; he being then thought to be the only famous maister of the arte of armes in the whole world. He taught none commonly under twentie, forty, fifty, or an hundred pounds.' To be, therefore, a gentleman of such a house as this, was really 'a very ribband in the cap of youth.' In the same tract occurs a curious illustration of another expression in the same speech of Mercutio, 'the very butcher of a silk button.' 'One Austen Bagger, a verie tall gentleman of his handes,' resolved to encounter Signior Rocco, and went to another house which he had in the Blackfriars, and called to him in this manner—'Signior Rocco! thou that art thought to be the only cunning man in the world with thy weapons; thou that takest upon thee to hit anie Englishman with a thrust upon anie button; thou that takest upon thee to come over the seas to teach the valiant noblemen and gentlemen of England to fight; thou cowardly fellow, come out of thy house if thou dare for thy life! I am come to fight with thee.'

"The expression, 'A gentleman of the very first house,' has been, however, usually understood in a genealogical sense, in which form it occurs also in Beaumont and Fletcher's "Women Pleased," act i., s. 3:—

—a gentleman's gone then,

A gentleman o' the first house! There's the end on 't!

Warburton supposed the allusion was to Tybalt's pretending to be at the head of his family; to which Steevens objects that Capulet and Romeo were both before him; but the truth is that neither of them at all interfered with such claim. Romeo was of the house of Capulet only by marriage with Juliet; and in the list of persons represented in the tragedy Tybalt is called *Nephew to Lady Capulet*. The real heraldical reference, if that be the genuine sense of the passage, appears to have been quite overlooked. When the bearing of armorial ensigns became reduced to a science, a series of differences was instituted, the more readily to distinguish between the arms borne by the several sons and descendants of the same family, and to show their order and consanguinity. They consisted of six small figures called a label, crescent, mullet, martlet, annulet, and fleur-de-lis—which were always to be placed in the most prominent part of the coat of arms. These signs, borne singly, were for the sons of the original ancestors, who constituted that which heralds denominated 'the First House.' The issue of these sons formed 'the Second House,' and carried their differences doubled; beginning with a crescent surmounted of a label, a crescent of a crescent, and so of the rest. It was ordained by Otho, Emperor of Germany, that the eldest son of the first member of the First House should be preferred in dignity before his uncle; and the same regulation was also established in France, and made to include females. Tybalt was, therefore, the eldest son of Lady Capulet's elder brother; and, without pretending to be at the head of his family, was still a gentleman of 'the very first house.'

I have quoted this note because the editor, perhaps from want of space, omitted to record a fact mentioned in Silver's book regarding Signior Rocco's "College," which is equally interesting with the anecdotes he has given, and for which I am indebted to a highly accomplished scholar and friend:—"He caused to be fairly drawne and set round about his schoole all the noblemen's and gentlemen's armes that were his scholars, and hanging right under their armes their rapiers, daggers, gloves of male, and gantlets. Also, he had benches and stooles, the room being verie large, for gentlemen to sit round about his schoole to behold his teaching. . . . And because all things should be verie necessary for the noblemen and gentlemen, he had in his schoole a large square table, with a greene carpet done round with a verie brode rich fringe of gold, and alwaies standing upon it a verie faire standish covered with crimson velvet, with inke, pens, pen-dust, and quiers of verie excellent fine paper gilded, readie for the noblemen and gentlemen upon occasion, being then desirous to follow their fight, to send their men to dispatch their businesse. And to know how the time passed he had in one corner of his schoole a clocke with a verie faire large diall. He had within that schoole a roomie which was called a Privie-schoole, with manie weapons therein, where he did teach his schollers his secret fight, after he had perfectly taught them their rules. He was verie much beloved in the Court."

University College.

P. T. W.

NOTES.

LORD NELSON.—In an illustrated copy of Dr. Dibdin's "Ædes Althorpianæ," in my possession, and once belonging to a celebrated bibliomaniac, are the following poems in manuscript. The first was written by the late Georgiana, Duchess of Devonshire, so remarkable for her rare beauty, and so popularly known for her enthusiastic admiration for the political principles of Fox; and the second by her husband the Duke. The originals—for the present are copies obtained, it would seem, by special favour—were presented by her Grace to the late Marquis of Lansdowne. After much research and inquiry I have not discovered that they have ever been printed. They are quite worthy of "Memorabilia," not only as compositions, but as literary curiosities:—

Nelson, by valour led to dauntless fame,
All toil surmounted, and all foes o'ercome;
Braved every danger calm and undismay'd,
While some new triumphs mark'd each step he made.
The force of France his ardent mind defied;
He conquer'd—knew it—blest'd his God—and died!
Britannia, glorying in her hero's fame,
On her victorious shield inscribes his name;
Grateful proclaims the safety which he gave,
But, 'midst her triumphs, weeps upon his grave.

Of had Britannia sought, 'midst dire alarms,
Divine protection from her sons in arms;
Generous and brave, yet not from vices free,
Britain received from heaven a mixed decree.
To crown their merit, but to check their pride,
God gave them victory—but Nelson died!

The Duchess died within a very short time after the Battle of Trafalgar.—GEORGE DANIEL, Canonbury.

RUNIC INSCRIPTION.—In the Holy Island, off Lamlash, Arran, there is an excavation in the sandstone rock which goes by the name of the "Hermit's Cave," from one of the Culdees, named Saint Molios (pronounced by the islanders Moles), having made it his habitation; whose grave is still shown on the Island of Arran. A spring of pure water runs into a small pool opposite the cave, which is known by the name of the "Hermit's Well," and was long resorted to by the islanders as a specific for various ailments; they were wont to deposit offerings to the saint near the spot. It is evident that the cave was originally sheltered by overhanging oaks, from the ancient roots entwined round the outside; which is an interesting fact, as there is now nothing of the kind growing near the spot. It would therefore seem, as was frequently the case, that the hermit has taken the place of the Druids, who were wont to make the oak an object of reverence. A large St. Andrew's cross is carved on the rock above the cave, and an inscription in Runic character is still preserved on one of the sides of the cave, but it will soon be obliterated, from the number of Smiths, Browns, and Joneses, who wish to immortalise themselves.—H. T.

SHAKESPEARE AND ARISTOTLE.—In your "Memorabilia," I find the following in a "note" by Lex on the above subject:—"I much doubt whether there was any English translation (of the Ethics) good or bad in the poet's time." On referring to "Clarke's Bibliographical Miscellany," vol. ii., I find there was a translation of the Ethics as early as 1547. The full title of the work is this:—"The

Ethiques of Aristotle, that is to say, Preceptes of good Behaviour, and perfighte honestie, now newly translated into English. Translated out of the Italian by Jhon. Wyllinson, 16mo, Lond. 1547." The Politics had also been translated in 1598; and the Metaphysics in 1601. How the passage from the Ethics is translated by the above Jhon Wyllinson, I have no means of knowing; perhaps some of your readers may be able to determine the question. As Shakespeare does mention Aristotle's Ethics in one of his plays, though I forget which, it is just possible that he may have seen the translation referred to.

W. S. H., Briercliffe Parsonage.

QUERIES.

OLD FRENCH PROVERB.—Can you tell me the signification of a saying sometimes met with in old French books:—*Monter sur l'anne*?—M.P., Boodle's.

[It was applied metaphorically to a bankrupt, because there was an ancient custom in France which compelled every bankrupt to ride backward on an ass through the town where he dwelt, holding the tail of the animal as a bridle.]

TOBACCO AND OTHER SMOKING.—A controversy is raging on the subject of tobacco-smoking. I wish to know if any of your innumerable readers can inform me, what our ancestors were in the habit of smoking before the introduction of this, according to Mr. Solly, pernicious plant? Herb-smoking, there is good reason for believing, was prevalent in this country long previous to the importation of tobacco.—A WHIFF-LEK, Temple.

CAN any of your readers inform me the derivation of Unlesmote? Mote, of course, is the Scandinavian for a meeting. The place where this Unlesmote (whatever it signifies) was held is now corrupted into Woolmote, and since that by the ignorant into Woolmoor.—EBURACUM, Uthorpe Lodge, Whitby.

A CANDE TO DISCOVER THE DEAD.—On crossing St. Patrick's Bridge, in the city of Cork, on the evening of Friday, the 20th of March, there was a curious sight:—One hundred persons, or more, were collected, and peered intently upon the water from bridge and quay. In the river there was a float or cradle of straw about four or five feet in length, and in the centre, protected from the wind by a wall of straw around, burned a candle. Upon inquiring it appeared that a child was drowned on the preceding day, and as the body could not be found, this plan of discovery was tried. Divers little boys assured the spectators who were incredulous that when this straw floated over the body of the child, it would, notwithstanding wind or tide, remain stationary, and the flame of the candle expire. Can any of your readers inform me how this superstitious custom originated, containing, as it probably does, the light of truth amid a shadow?—E. W. J., Cork Barracks.

FORTHCOMING LIFE AND CORRESPONDENCE OF DR. DOYLE.—I have been for some time engaged in preparing for publication a Memoir of the Life and Times of the late Dr. Doyle, whose remarkably able writings, both under his own signature and that of "J. K. L.," excited so wide a sensation and influence some thirty years ago. I possess a considerable quantity of his papers and correspondence; but, as the latter was exceedingly varied and extensive, I am quite sure much exists in many a home which the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS contributes to brighten. I would be glad to receive either the original autographs or verbatim copies. If intrusted with the former, I pledge myself to return them promptly and carefully. Some of the most respected men in Great Britain have already aided the work. I shall acknowledge my obligation to them in my preface; to do so now might appear premature.—WILLIAM JOHN FITZ-PATRICK, Kilmacud Manor, Stillorgan, county Dublin.

ANCIENT MSS. FROM LETT. OF EM. PER. FROM THE BOD., 1., 278.—"An antiquary who travelled through Malmesbury many years after the dissolution of the Monastery, relates that he saw broken windows patched up with remnants of the most valuable MSS. on vellum, and that the bakers had not even then consumed the stores they had accumulated, in heating their ovens." Can any of your Correspondents inform me if any such MSS. have been discovered within the present century, in houses or cottages near the site of any monastery?—J. R. Powell, Monkton Farleigh.

ANSWERS.

ANSWER TO ENIGMA, "THE NOBLEST OBJECT," ETC.

Devoid of Judgment poor are works of art.
The sparkling Eye most lustre doth impart.
The Rent's essential in the tenant's lease.
And dear-bought Union signalises peace.
The anxious farmer toils to Speed his plough.
Allegiance soldiers swear and lovers vow.
Luna, fair planet, shines 'twixt earth and sun.
Nor has Elysium ever yet been won.
Money's the miser's treasure, badge of Jews,
The wife's ambition, and the parson's dues.

Now, if my humble spirit can divine,
I've made Miss Seward's promised offer mine;
For, when these letters are together brought,
JERUSALEM's the ancient city sought.

A SUBSCRIBER.

ENIGMA.—THE NOBLEST OBJECT IN THE WORKS OF ART.—It strikes me that your Correspondent has quoted the above enigma from memory, and that he has accidentally misplaced one of the stanzas. If you make what is now the fourth become the second stanza, and leave the others to follow as they now appear, I think the following ten words would answer respectively each line, viz.:—Harmony, Eternity, Lark, Integrity, Olive, Payment, Obisance, Luna, Interest, Seed. The first letters of these words form the name "Heliopolis." In Heliopolis, the Oxford of Old Egypt, stood the great Temple of the Sun. Here the beautiful and the wise studied love and logic 4000 years ago. Here Joseph married the fair Asenath. Here Plato and Herodotus pursued philosophy and history; and here the darkness that veiled the great sacrifice on Calvary was observed by a heathen astronomer, Dionysius, the Areopagite. Here also is the garden of Metairie, where grew the celebrated Balm of Gilead, presented by the Queen of Sheba to Solomon, and brought to Egypt by Cleopatra. But of all the gorgeous beauties of this ancient city nothing now remains save a magnificent obelisk encircled by a small garden of orange-trees. Sic transit gloria mundi.—W. J. J.

WHEN WAS THE FIRST PANTOMIME PERFORMED IN ENGLAND?—In answer to "Maro's" inquiry, desiring information as to the date of the first pantomime performed in England, I beg to place at his disposal the following interesting paragraph supplying the required fact. It is one of many hundred similar cuttings from a set of newspaper files covering the period from 1790 to 1824. No cyclopædia that I possess furnishes any dates relative to pantomimes; they merely profess to describe the character of the performance:—

"PANTOMIMES.—The first pantomime in England was produced at Drury Lane, in the year 1702, in an entertainment called the *Tavern Bilkers*. It lingered only five nights. Its author, however (Weaver, a dancing-master at Shrewsbury), brought out another in 1716, called the *Loves of Mars and Venus*, which met with great success. On this occasion Steele wrote the following lines on the back of one of the playbills at Button's Coffee-house:—

'Weaver, corrupter of this present age,
Who first taught silent sins upon the stage.'

Steele's distich is not, strictly speaking, correct. The pantomimes of antiquity, not altogether remarkable for their moral tendency, usually expressed in gesture whatever the chorus sung.—WILLIAM JOHN FITZPATRICK, Dublin.

ENGLISHMEN WITH WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN NAMES.—I see by your Journal of the 21st ult., in answer to Correspondents, that my esteemed friend Mr. Cooper, R.A., has pointed out several instances in which illustrious personages of the masculine gender have borne the Christian names of women; but as it may be interesting to some of your readers to know whence originated such a custom, I will here observe that it is a very ancient one. The early Christians were in the habit of taking, in baptism and confirmation, the names of those Saints to whom they had a particular devotion; and even amongst Roman Catholics of the present day such a course is not unfrequently pursued, especially on the Continent, where not only the men take the Christian names of female Saints, but the opposite sex vice versa. In conclusion, it may not be out of place to remark that, those entering upon conventual and monastical life enjoy the same privilege in the selection of a beatified patron or patroness.—R. VILLIERS SANKEY.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 684, by Potemkin, Argus, Philz, D. T. W., Johnny, Bolton, H. W. F., A. Z., T. N. O., S. N. H., M. R., S. H. A., K., Lawrence, D. B., N. H., R. M. F., W. Tusk, C. J. Fisher, D. W. O., Sligo, Kemerton, are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 685, by Rector, Etoulan, M. P., Lile Dell, Z. Z., Juvenis, Paul Fry, A. B. C., A. Clerk, Mercator, Jeany Deans, Potemkin, Look-on, Dragon, A. Bad Player, G. Dips, Nemo, H. S. T., W. N. S., B. Adelphi, A. Crimean Guardman, Lutz, Philz-Chess, Working Man, The Southern Girl, Jerry, F. N., A. Peen, Travellers' Club, W. A. T., Robin Hood, Semper Idem, Jacob B., A. Lancashire Witch, Nameless, No. 1, Young Peter, Sailor Boy, H. M. S., Caliban, Bromeliad, An Oriental, Punch, Will o' the Wisp, are correct.
SOLUTIONS OF ENIGMAS, by Oncton, H. G. B., P. A. R., C. H. S., Philip, R. C. D., F. A. S., B. T. T., S. B. D., T. A. B., Bombardier, H. Russell, Woolwich, Robert, G. P. J., S. J. W., Wooden-head, Argus, D. D., A. Rector, W. G., Enfield, Box and Cox, Dromio, D. S. E., C. L. M., Q. B. L. S., L. D., Margery, The Southern Girl, Tom Noddy, Edipus, Bumble, O. X., Simon Ferdinand, T. M. D., Woodbine, G. H. S., Amateur, Max, U. P. Q., Alpha, Scotsman, Carr, Foxglove, Henricus, Maxman, T. M., F. G. W., B. N., Antony, Subaltern, are correct. All others are wrong.

*. The majority of our answers on the subject of Chess are deferred from want of room.

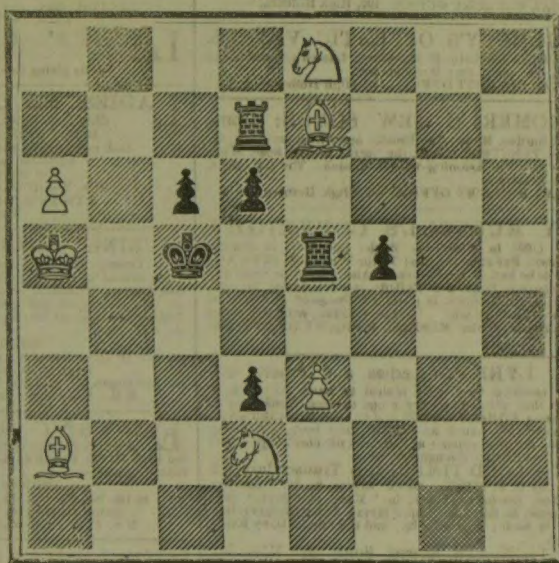
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 684.

WHITE. BLACK.
1. R to Q 5th (ch) B takes R (best)
2. Q to K 5th (ch) K takes Q, or (a)
3. B to Q B 3rd—Mate.
(a) 2. K to Q 6th, or Q B 5th
3. Q to Q B 3rd—Mate.

PROBLEM No. 686.

By J. R. EDNEY.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS IN THE METROPOLIS.

Game played at the St. George's Club between Mr. STAUNTON and Mr. BARNES, consulting on the one side, against Messrs. LÖWENTHAL and CATTLEY, on the other.

(Scotch Gambit.)

WHITE (Messrs. S. & B.)	BLACK (Messrs. L. & C.)	WHITE (Messrs. S. & B.)	BLACK (Messrs. L. & C.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	22. P to Q R 5th	B to Q R 2nd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	23. Q to K B 3rd (c)	P to Q B 3rd
3. P to Q 4th	P takes P	24. Btks K B P (d)	K R takes B
4. K B to Q B 4th	K B to K B 4th	25. P to K 6th	K R to K 2nd
5. Castles	P to Q 3rd	26. P takes Kt	K R takes P
6. P to Q B 3rd	P to Q 6th	27. Q to K Kt 4th (e)	K R to K B 2nd
7. P to Q Kt 4th	B to Q Kt 3rd	28. Q R to K 6th	K R to K B 3rd
8. P to Q R 4th	P to Q R 3rd	29. P to K B 5th (f)	Q to K Kt 3rd (g)
9. Q takes P	K Kt to K B 3rd	30. Q to K B 4th (h)	Q to K B 2nd
10. Q B to K B 4th	Castles	31. B to K R 4th	R takes R
11. Q Kt to Q 2nd	Q B to K Kt 5th	32. P takes R	Q takes Q
12. Q R to K sq	B takes Kt	33. R takes R	R to K sq
13. Kt takes B	K Kt to Kt 5th	34. R to K B 7th	P to K Kt 4th (i)
14. K B to Q Kt 3rd	Q to K B 3rd	35. B takes P	R takes P
15. Q B to K Kt 3rd	K Kt to K 4th	36. P to K R 3rd	B to K 6th
16. Kt takes Kt	Kt takes Kt (a)	37. B takes B	R takes B
17. Q to Q 2nd	Q R to K sq	38. R takes Q Kt P	R takes Q B P
18. K to R sq	K to R sq	39. R to Q Kt 6th	P to Q B 4th
19. P to K B 4th	Q to K R 3rd	40. P takes P	P takes P
20. Q to her sq	Kt to Q 2nd	41. R takes Q R P	P to Q B 5th
21. P to K 5th (b)	Q R to Q sq	42. R to Q B 6th	R to Q R 6th

And, after some time, the game was abandoned as a drawn battle.

(a) Better, perhaps, to have taken with the Pawn.
(b) Black have now a very bad game, their pieces are much confined; and, unless by some carelessness on the part of White, it is not easy to see how they can be liberated.
(c) Preferable, we believe, to the more tempting sortie of Q to her 5th.
(d) This looks precipitate. White had a certain game by keeping their opponents' forces locked up until both Rooks could be brought to bear; but this move enables them to free their men, though at some cost.
(e) Threatening to win the exchange by B to K R 4th.
(f) A promising move, certainly; but would not K R to K sq have been better?
(g) The best move.
(h) The spectators thought Q takes Q, followed by B to K R 4th, would have ensured the victory. We are not so confident.
(i) Well played, indeed. After this it is difficult to see how to prevent Black making a drawn battle.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

No. 1027.—By CONRAD BAYER.

White: K at Q 8th, R at Q Kt 5th, B at Q B 4th, Kt at K Kt 5th, Ps at Q 3rd and Q Kt 3rd.
Black: K at Q 3rd, Kt at K Kt 3rd; Ps at K 2nd, Q B 4th, and Q Kt 5th.
White to play and mate in four moves.

No. 1028.—By C. TSCHARNER.

White: K at Q Kt 3rd, Q at K Kt sq, B at K 5th, Kt at K B 3rd, P at Q 4th.
Black: K at K 3rd.
White to play and mate in four moves.

No. 1029.—By F. CAPREZ, of Chur.

White: K at K R sq, Kts at Q 3rd and Q B sq; Ps at K Kt 2nd, Q 2nd, and Q R 6th.
Black: K at K B 5th, B at K R 7th, P at K Kt 6th.
White to play and mate in four moves.

NOVEL VARIATION IN THE GAME OF CHESS.—(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.) Sir,—A strange thought has come into my head, the effect of which would be to introduce an entirely new series of openings in Chess. Do not scoff prematurely, nor think that this notice ought to be postdated one day; but the idea is the simplest possible, being merely to reverse the positions of the Knights and the Bishops. Thus the powers of combination remain precisely as before, but nobody knows how many new and unexpected developments might arise. The King's Bishop's Pawn would then become the King's Knight's Pawn, and would have to be moved to his 3rd square almost immediately, since that now undefended line of the Bishop's or Queen's attack would be immediately defensible by the King's Bishop from the Knight's (present) square. I cannot help thinking that much amusement might be derived from following up this variation in the position of these two pieces. At present an accomplished Chess-player knows exactly every move, both in attack and defence, of every opening. This, of course, gives the first portion of every game a routine character. Analysis by successive writers has almost arrived at demonstration. It never has, and never will, quite reach that point; but to be able to start afresh from the very beginning into a new series of combinations seems to offer a very tempting prospect, and open out a new field for thought. The merit of such a variation seems to be that it may be attempted in play without the slightest perplexity, since in the course of a few moves the pieces fall into their natural positions, only they get there by a new process. Do give the subject a little thought, and ventilate it amongst a few players.—I am, Sir, yours faithfully, R. March 31.

THE NORTHERN AND MIDLAND COUNTIES CHESS ASSOCIATION.—In consequence of the great attraction offered by the Art-Treasures Exhibition, the friends of Chess have thought it desirable that this year's meeting of the Chess Association should be held in Manchester, the Birmingham Committee having kindly given a conditional assent to this proposition. There is every probability of an Exhibition of Manufactures taking place in Birmingham next year, as well as the Triennial Musical Festival, and this may be adduced as an additional reason for the change.

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